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## SBC Mandates Volunteer Corps

### Asks 5,000 In Next Five Years; Sees Missions Via Satellite

By Tim Nicholas

Messengers to the Kansas City meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 15-17, debated homosexuality and abortion, passed another record budget without debate, and assigned themselves the task of enlisting and funding 5,000 mission volunteers by 1982.

They elected Jimmy Allen, pastor of FBC, San Antonio, Tex., as their president in a run off with Jerry Vines of Mobile, Ala. Other elected officers include Olan Runnels of Kansas City, first vice president; Richard Sutton, of Topeka, Kans., second vice president; Martin Bradley of Nashville, recording secretary; and Lee Porter of Nashville, registration secretary.

Allen succeeded James L. Sullivan, retired president of the Baptist Sunday School Board.

The mission volunteer motion, delivered by Yazoo City layman and SBC executive committee member Owen Cooper, was preceded by a surrogate visit from the SBC's most famous member, Jimmy Carter, President of the United States. He spoke by way of a videotaped message flown in from Washington during the convention.

The essence of Carter's comments were that Southern Baptists can afford to begin an extensive volunteer missionary program plus increase Cooperative Program receipts. He said now is the time for a "quantum step forward" in Southern Baptists' efforts toward a worldwide spiritual program.

The message, inspired by a luncheon with Cooper and mission agency leaders, was followed by the motion to develop this volunteer missionary force by 1982. It specified that the Home and Foreign Mission boards, WMU, Brotherhood, and the Sunday School Board join in the enlistment and utilization of volunteers who would be sponsored by individuals, churches, and groups of churches. A plan for activation was called for by the Sep-

tember Executive Committee meeting. The motion passed.

However, the mission agencies, excluding the Sunday School Board, had already unveiled a Volunteers In Mission plan for a computerized resource system of some 100,000 volunteers. This program is expected to dovetail with the SBC mandate.

Messengers who were not seated directly in front of the stage in the massive, one-level auditorium, saw Carter and platform speakers via giant television screens at opposite ends of the Roe Bartle Convention Center Auditorium. They saw other special filmed sequences during presentations including the SBC's first live satellite transmission from overseas.

The transmission, originated with a Hong Kong television station, zipped through Hong Kong communications lines to a satellite 22,500 miles above earth, entered the United States through a San Francisco television receiver, raced through A.T.&T. lines to a domestic satellite, dropped to a Chicago satellite receiving station, took telephone lines to Kansas City, and through specially installed lines into H. Roe Bartle Hall.

Hong Kong missions personnel Jerry Juergens and Daniel Cheung discussed their work and prayed along with the 12,000 member audience.

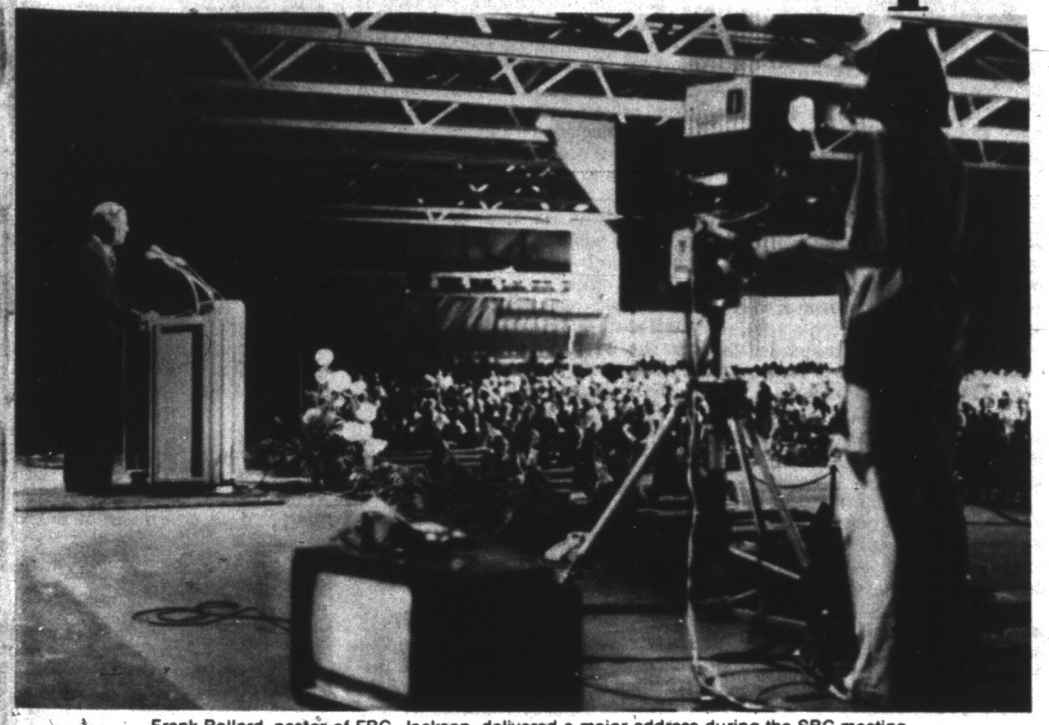
Juergens' mother, Mrs. Lenna Mae Gray of Muskogee, Okla., was in the audience, weeping silently. "It was indescribable," she commented after the satellite presentation. "When I

looked at him, I went back through 42 years of his life, knowing that God had his hand on him all those years."

Other tears were shed during the convention in Kansas City, an ex-homosexual pled for compassion and understanding during a debate on a homosexual resolution which reaffirmed an earlier resolution calling homosexuality a "sin" and commending singer Anita Bryant and other Christians for their recent public stands. The resolution, along with one decrying abortion on demand, and another opposing sale of birth control devices to unmarried minors, were only three of 14 resolutions adopted by the convention messengers whose total registration was 16,028.

Salary and vote disclosure motions took up much debating time during sessions, as did a motion to limit the office of the SBC president to one year, instead of the traditional re-election to a second one-year term. That motion was defeated. But a motion was adopted deleting from documents sex notation of SBC officers, committee and Board Members.

Disclosure of the number of votes received by each candidate for SBC office was begun during the convention and a motion to publish salaries of SBC agency chief executives was defeated. However, SBC boards, seminaries, commissions, and committees were instructed to provide "full information... concerning any specific staff position" and its salary. (Continued on page 6)



Frank Pollard, pastor of FBC, Jackson, delivered a major address during the SBC meeting.

### WMU Roundup

## Drama, Pageantry Resound Bold Mission Thrust Call

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — A repeated call for Southern Baptists to respond to world needs with a massive

mission thrust resounded throughout huge H. Roe Bartle Convention Center during the annual meeting of the Woman's Missionary Union.

Over and over, through drama and pageantry, speech choirs, music, sermons, speeches and panel discussions, the 5,000 Baptists attending the women's convention heard pleas to "listen" to the needs of the world and respond. Theme of the convention was "World Listen."

There were complaints, however, about the sound system at the massive, barn-like exhibition hall. Some said they had to strain to hear what the speakers were saying, and they had difficulty seeing the figures on the platform from seats almost 200 yards from the stage.

The convention opened with a Bold Missions Rally on Sunday afternoon which featured a two-hour pageant dramatizing mission efforts beginning with the creation of Adam and continuing through the present and into the future.

Actors dramatized the past of missions with vignettes on four stages

spread 130 yards apart. They featured Adam; Abraham; King David; the Apostle Paul; pioneer Indian missionaries David and John Brainerd; foreign missionary William Carey; Baptist missionary to China, Lottie Moon; and modern-day urban missionaries in New York City, Don and Goldie Rhymes.

Interspersed throughout the dramas was music by Jubilation, a six voice choral group from Grand Canyon College, Phoenix, Ariz., and orchestral music, provided by a 21-piece orchestra.

The dramatic narration was provided by three young men who introduced themselves as "the missions triplets" — Gerald Darrell, and Harold Ware, ministries of youth and music for Baptist churches in Pauls Valley, Atoka, and Wewoka, Okla., respectively.

Five Baptist missionaries and nationals who are the products of Baptist missions told the women of the needs of the people with whom they work, urging Baptists to pray specifically for (Continued on page 6)

## Pastors Elect Bailey Smith As President In Kansas City

Men attending the Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference here voted their vice president up to president and

heard twelve sermons — six of which were from non-Southern Baptists.

The annual two day conference which provides a platform for what is generally considered to be "hot" preaching, where pastors take notes for later sermons of their own, elected Bailey Smith as its new president. Smith, last year's vice president, is pastor of First Southern Baptist Church of Del City, Okla.

The pastors chose Homer Lindsay, Jr., pastor of FBC, Jacksonville, Fla., as vice president, and John Hatch, pastor of Trinity Baptist Church in Fort Worth, Tex., as secretary-treasurer.

Warren Wiersby, pastor of Moody Church in Chicago, delivered their most thunderous applause for three Southern Baptists.

Two of them — W. A. Criswell of FBC Dallas, and R. G. Lee, pastor emeritus of Bellevue Baptist Church in Memphis — received standing ovations. Lee, drew a standing ovation even

though he was absent. He was scheduled to speak at the closing session, but suffered a heart attack recently. He sent a taped message.

The third — Adrian Rogers, current pastor of Bellevue — was interrupted numerous times as he preached.

Selection of the non-Southern Baptists drew criticism. Several pastors questioned the need to go outside the SBC for speakers when they are Southern Baptists who are excellent preachers and Bible teachers.

Smith, in a post-election interview, said he believes the pastors' conference "ought to feature Southern Baptists... ought to be predominantly Southern Baptists: We have some outstanding Bible teachers and preachers."

Smith noted he is "conservative," and added he believes he was selected because of that. However, he said that he is not a member of the conservative Baptist Faith and Message Fellowship, and in fact, said he declined to write an article for a BFMB publication, to speak at a BFMB conference in Arkansas.

"I appreciate these people, but I am content to preach the word within the context of the Southern Baptist Convention," he said. "I would not join their group," he said, while noting that (Continued on page 2)



Presidents past and present: Jimmy Allen and James Sullivan.

## President Answers Far-Ranging Queries

During two press interviews, newly-elected president of the SBC, Jimmy Allen, fielded questions on most of the major moral issues among Southern Baptists, including homosexuality, women's ordination, and abortion.

On abortion, Allen, pastor of 9,000-member FBC of San Antonio, Tex., told reporters "I don't believe aborting a fetus before viability is murder, theologically." But he added, "I do not believe in abortion on demand. Society has a role in preserving the sacredness of life."

Allen said he feels Southern Baptists need to move toward opening new dimensions on opportunity for women throughout church life. "We are missing a great untapped resource if we don't do that," he said.

He sees the issue of ordaining women as a matter a local congregation must determine for itself. He said he had not participated as yet in a woman's ordination in his church.

"I'm not as excited in the ordination of women as in freeing them for use service," he said. "The question is: Are they allowed to be decision makers?"

But he said he doesn't see the current efforts by militant homosexuals in the same light as women's rights. He told reporters he wants Southern Baptists to continue to emphasize heterosexuality as being "God's design" while implementing such an understanding with compassion and concern.

Allen said he believes a community has the right to determine what kind of

models they want to have, referring to a Dade County, Fla., referendum which rescinded a non-discrimination law for homosexuals. He believes homosexuality is a disorder.

He said that today is a time of maturing for Southern Baptists. "It's a time for coming up grips with the world in a way we've never done before," he said, referring to a proposal by President Jimmy Carter who has challenged his fellow Southern Baptists to double the mission force at home and abroad by 1982 through the use of volunteers.

Asked if Carter's involvement is a violation of separation of church and state, Allen replied, "I see President Carter as a very sincere churchman. There must be someplace in the life of a public official to be the Christian participant his convictions lead him to be."

Converting the present charismatic movement in several churches within the SBC, Allen said he sees himself as being less threatened than some of his "brethren."

He said he feels there is a fresh movement of the Holy Spirit among SBC churches and that he tends to ask "what is the highest good — what's happening in the total witness of their lives?"

Allen said that nobody is making enough progress in race relations; that he believes an SBC president needs two years to do a complete job, and that day is far gone for Southern Baptists to change their name to designate a worldwide rather than a regional operation.

## Mississippians Named To Convention Agencies

Each year, a one year committee on boards with representatives from every state Baptist convention meets to recommend members to fill vacancies on the various boards and agencies of the Southern Baptist Convention. Mississippians on this committee which reported to the 1977 meeting of the SBC were: Joe Tuten, pastor of Jackson's Calvary Baptist Church and Larry Otis, Tupelo layman.

The following Mississippians were elected by messengers to the convention to fill allocated spots on various boards and agencies of the SBC.

Clark McMurray, pastor of FBC, Pascagoula, elected to the SBC Executive Committee to a term expiring in 1981; Gene A. Triggs, Yazoo City layman, to the Foreign Mission Board for a term expiring in 1979; Mrs. Kimble (Glenda) Sutherland, Jackson laywoman, to the Home Mission Board for a term to expire in 1978 and Lewis Myers, Sr., a Cleveland layman also to the HMB until 1981.

Three Mississippians were elected members of the Baptist Sunday School Board. They are Tom O. Winstead, a

Clinton layman, to a term expiring in 1978; Bobby C. Perry, pastor of FBC Moss Point, and Murry M. Alexander a Greenville layman, both to terms expiring in 1981.

Beverly Tinnin, pastor of FBC Meridian and William A. Crabill, Marks layman, both were elected to terms with the Annuity Board. Tinnin's term expires in 1980, and Crabill's in 1981.

Lewis Nobles, president of Mississippi College, was elected to the board of Southwestern Seminary for a term ending in 1982. And Kermit McGregor, pastor of Temple Baptist Church in Hattiesburg, was elected to Midwest Seminary's board until 1978.

John Claypool, pastor of Northminster Baptist Church in Jackson, was elected to the Christian Life Commission until 1981. And Jerry Vardaman, Starkville layman, was elected to the Historical Commission until 1980.

Members of next year's Mississippi's Committee on Boards are Eugene Dobbs, pastor of FBC, Philadelphia, and Joe Macione, a Leland layman.

## Cooper Sees Absorption Of Para-Church Groups

With the passage of a mission volunteer motion at the Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Kansas City, Owen Cooper, Yazoo City industrialist and former SBC president, sees the demise of two mission support organizations he helped organize.

The resolution called for 5,000 persons to be enlisted and financed by individuals, churches or groups of churches to work a year or two in home or foreign missions.

Cooper is involved with Agricultural Missions Foundation, a Baptist-operated fund raiser for agricultural mission projects, and Universal Concern Foundation, which functions to promote the gospel message in India, where preaching missionaries are currently not allowed. Southern Baptists operate only a hospital in India now.

Cooper said "I think this resolution should result in the expansion of the number of people serving and enlarging the number of channels through which they might serve."

"Some laymen in groups who hitherto have not found a channel, have gone on their own," he said. "This will

probably make that unnecessary in the future."

Cooper, who said that his church, FBC of Yazoo City has already voted to sponsor a volunteer missionary under the terms or the resolution, says that "Any para-church organization I'm involved with, I hope would be absorbed."

The resolution, which calls for the state mission boards, the Home Mission Board, and the Foreign Mission Board, working with the WMU, Brotherhood, and Sunday School Board to enlist and utilize these volunteers, was born in a luncheon Cooper and other Baptist leaders had with President Jimmy Carter in early June.

Carter, who invited the men and women to Washington for the luncheon, challenged the group to take advantage of involving lay people in voluntary mission service, according to Cooper. The group included Cooper, Glendon McCullough, director of the Brotherhood Commission; Grady Cothen, Sunday School Board president; Baker James Cauthen, Foreign Mission Board executive secretary; Mrs. A. Harrison Gregory, WMU president; William G. Tanner, Home Mission Board executive director; Porter Routh, executive secretary of the SBC Executive Committee; Fred Gregg, Carter's Sunday School teacher; Charles W. Cothen, Carter's pastor at FBC, Washington, D. C., and Annie Ward Byrd, a retired Sunday School Board editor.

Cooper said that Carter told the group his thinking started back in 1968 when Carter, just defeated in his first bid for Governor of Georgia, went on a layman's crusade in Massachusetts. Cooper says that Carter's witnessing (Continued on page 2)



Cooper

# Resolutions Range From IRS Protest To World Hunger Fight

Messengers to the Southern Baptist Convention last week in Kansas City took stands on homosexuality, the IRS definition of "integrated auxiliary," religious liberty and employment practices, permissiveness, human rights, and world hunger among 14 resolutions.

They also refused to alter their previous stand on abortion, which was adopted last year.

A resolution on abortion was introduced by the resolutions committee this year which was a reaffirmation of the stand taken in Norfolk in 1976. A group of college students fought to have the resolution amended with stronger language but ran afoul of parliamentary procedures. First vice-president Dotson Nelson ruled that last year's action could not be amended; and before the reaffirmation statement could be amended, a motion to cut off debate had forced a vote which carried in favor of the resolution as it stood.

The abortion question sparked the longest debate relative to the resolutions. Later in an interview one of the students declared that his group had fared better than had been expected in the reaffirmation statement written this year.

The resolution on homosexuality also occasioned a great deal of debate, a part of which was a tearful plea by an ex-homosexual not to adopt it. Finally, however, it was adopted as presented.

The resolution pointed out a decline in moral integrity, a campaign to secure acceptance for deviant moral behavior, and a "radical scheme to subvert the sacred pattern of marriage."

It resolved "that the Southern Baptist Convention reaffirm the firm biblical resolution on homosexuality passed in Norfolk, Virginia in 1976 and commend Anita Bryant and other Christians during the recent referendum in Miami, Florida for their courageous stand against the evils inherent in homosexuality."

Be it further resolved that we show compassion for every person in our society regardless of lifestyle, and earnestly pray for their redemption.

Three of the resolutions declared appreciation for the host city and the convention officers and called for support of the American Bible Society.

The other resolutions follow.

## WORLD HUNGER

Resolved, that we refer to the Executive Committee the need for a current report on present world hunger conditions.

Be it further Resolved, that the Executive Committee be responsible for a study of how the Southern Baptist Convention may help meet this rising crisis, giving consideration to a convocation of related agency representatives and other interested persons in Southern Baptist Convention churches.

## IRS DEFINITION OF AN "INTEGRATED AUXILIARY" OF A CHURCH

Resolved, that it (Convention) finds the amendments to § 1.6033-2 of the Income Tax Regulations defining an "integrated auxiliary" to be unacceptable both scripturally and legally;

And that it request the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs to make this Convention's opposition known to the President, the Commissioner of Internal Revenue, the Congress, and, as appropriate, the judiciary.

## RELIGIOUS LIBERTY AND EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES

Resolved, that we, messengers to the Southern Baptist Convention express our alarm at what seems to us to be EEOC's (Equal Opportunity Employment Commission) unwarranted and unconstitutional intrusion into religious institutions and organizations.

That we pledge our support of Southwestern Seminary as it protects both the Seminary's religious rights and the rights of all who believe that religion-related education, financed from private funds, has a constitutionally-protected place in our country.

That we urge our pastors and lay members to be alert to the threats to religious liberty dramatized by EEOC's suit and to express themselves to public officials who serve in the legislative and executive branches of Government.

That we request the officers and staff of this Convention and, especially, the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs to represent our interests and concerns in this matter.

## ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

We acknowledge that God created all that has been created which includes all natural resources he provides for our use.

God also charges us to be good stewards with all he places at our disposal.

We support our national leaders in their research and development of domestic energy including wise distribution of all natural resources.

It is also our prayer that our leaders will be endowed with wisdom to develop a national policy which will be equitable to all citizens.

## HUMAN RIGHTS AND CERTAIN MISAPPLICATIONS

Resolved, that we reaffirm our belief in the free exercise of religion as determined by a free conscience, and that we oppose any discrimination, legal or otherwise, against any individual based upon race, age, gender, or nationality, and that in reaffirming our opposition to such discrimination, we also express our opposition to all government efforts to define discrimination in such a way that ridiculous extremes, repugnant to the Christian faith and life, become the law of the land, such as the legalization of homosexual marriages, permitting homosexual couples to adopt children, prohibiting father-son banquets or single-sex choirs, requiring sexually integrated housing and restroom facilities, requiring governmentally financed housing to be made available to persons living in adultery or fornication, prohibiting a draft law that applies to men only, and we urge all citizens to be active in opposing the adoption of such public policies.

TORTURE

Evidence of the reality of torture and its proliferation is undeniably, even in our contemporary world, and torture is a sign of spiritual death and leads to increased moral blindness, producing fear, hatred, violence, and war, and dehumanizes both the torturer and the person tortured.

Therefore, be it Resolved, that we the messengers to the Southern Baptist Convention, assembled in Kansas City, Missouri on June 16, 1977, do hereby condemn any use of torture as a sin against God and a crime against

humanity. We affirm that torture demonstrates the very opposite of love and violates the will of God revealed in Jesus Christ.

## PERMISSIVENESS AND FAMILY PLANNING

Resolved, that we call upon elected and employed government officials to work toward the return of parental or guardian control of unmarried minors in the matter of sexual information and devices, and

Be it further Resolved, that we oppose the sale of birth control devices to unmarried minors except with parental or guardian consent.

Furthermore, be it Resolved, that we ask our churches to speak out against this permissiveness of the new morality and, under the leadership of pastors and parents, supplement and reinforce the sex education taught in the home in order to strengthen the biblical teachings of chastity before marriage and fidelity to marriage vows.

## ABORTION

Resolved that this Convention reaffirm the strong stand against abortion adopted by the 1976 Convention, and, in view of some confusion in interpreting part of this resolution we confirm our strong opposition to abortion on demand and all governmental policies and actions which permit this.

(The 1976 resolution on abortion is as follows:



Pictured left to right are new SBC officers Jimmy Allen, Olen Runnels, Richard Sutton, Martin Bradley, Lee Porter, and Porter Routh.

## New SBC Officers

KANSAS CITY — Jimmy Allen of San Antonio, Tex., heads an almost completely new slate of Southern Baptist Convention officers elected here.

Allen, pastor of FBC, San Antonio, is the new president of the 12.7 million member body, succeeding James L. Sullivan, retired president of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.

Olen Runnels, pastor of Swope Park Baptist Church in the host city, and Richard Sutton, M.D., an orthopedic surgeon from Topeka, Kans., were elected first and second vice president, respectively.

Martin Bradley, manager of the Research Services Department of the Sunday School Board was chosen as recording secretary; and as registration secretary, the messengers elected Lee Porter, consultant for senior adults, also working for the Sunday School Board.

The only returning officer is Porter Routh who was re-elected as treasurer. Routh, executive secretary-treasurer of the SBC Executive Committee, is traditionally re-elected each year to the treasurer's post.

Other posts to which persons are generally re-elected as long as they wish to retain the posts are those of recording and registration secretary. Clifton Allen and Fred Kendall both chose not to continue in the posts which they had held for a number of years. Allen has been recording secretary and Kendall has been registration secretary.

The new president was elected this year because Sullivan declined another of Southern Baptists' traditions—that of electing the president to a second year in office. Sullivan, elected last year at the convention in Norfolk, declined the second term, cit-

ing "ceaseless air travel, constant physical and emotional strains and extended absences from home."

Allen was elected in a runoff with Jerry Vines, pastor of Dauphin Way Baptist Church in Mobile, Ala.

Other nominations for the presidency were Clifton W. Brannon, evangelist from Longview, Tex.; Dotson M. Nelson, pastor of Mountain Brook Baptist Church, Birmingham, Ala.; Warren G. Hultgreen, pastor of FBC, Tulsa, Okla.; and Richard A. Jackson, pastor of North Phoenix Baptist Church, Phoenix, Ariz.

Resolved, that the messengers to the Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Norfolk in June, 1976 reaffirm the biblical sacredness and dignity of all human life, including fetal life, and

Be it further Resolved, that we call on Southern Baptists and all citizens of the nation to work to change those attitudes and conditions which encourage many people to turn to abortion as a means of birth control, and

Be it further Resolved, that in the best interest of our society, we reject any indiscriminate attitude toward abortion, as contrary to the biblical view, and

Be it further Resolved, that we also affirm our conviction about the limited role of government in dealing with matters relating to abortion, and support the right of expectant mothers to the full range of medical services and personal counseling for the preservation of life and health.

Resolved, that the Southern Baptist Convention in Kansas City in June 1977 urge our churches and their members to give strong support to our Christian Life Commission's leadership in protesting television's use of illicit sex, casual violence, alcoholic promotion, materialism, vulgarity, and profanity.

Be it further Resolved, that we reaffirm our continuing opposition to such immoral practices as pornography, obscenity, child abuse, and the exploitation of children in pornography, and gambling in all forms.



## Our Folks

James Richardson, left, pastor of First Baptist Church, Leland, consults with John Lee Taylor, right, pastor of First Baptist Church, Grenada, and a member of the credentials committee for the convention.

## \$63.4 Million Budget Set During Bold Advance

Record budgets are commonplace for the Southern Baptist Convention, and messengers pass them each year in an off-handed manner. This year's new record was \$63.4 million.

This includes a basis operating budget of \$54 million and a capital needs budget of \$1,000,000 for a total of \$55,000,000. The remainder of the total budget is taken up in a Challenge Bold Advance Budget of \$8,320,000.

The overall total is \$63.4 million more than the budget for this year. The capital needs budget is the same as this year, and the basic budget is \$5 million more than this year's. The Challenge Operating Bold Advance Budget is \$3.4 million more than the present budget.

Missions will get \$36,252,965 if the total basic budget is reached. This will mean \$26 million for the Foreign Mission Board and \$10,252,965 for the Home Mission Board. This amounts to 67 per cent of the budget.

The next largest amount will be going to the seminaries. Their total figure will be \$12,128,535.

The Radio and Television Commission will have a figure of \$2,750,000 in next year's budget. The only other two figures above a half-million dollars

are the Brotherhood Commission with \$522,500 and the SBC operating budget with \$536,000.

After the basic budget has been met the capital needs budget will be distributed on a formula that would send \$100,000 to Golden Gate Seminary, \$673,300 to Southwestern Seminary, \$250,000 to Southern Seminary, and \$56,700 to the Radio and Television Commission.

The Bold Advance Budget will be distributed after the basic operating budget and the capital needs budget are met. The largest portions of this budget will be \$3,750,000 for the Foreign Mission Board and \$2,750,000 for the Home Mission Board.

The total SBC operating budget will be \$586,500 including \$536,000 expected to come from the Cooperative Program. Other sources of income will be \$36,000 expected from the dividends and interest and \$414,500 expected from the Sunday School Board. It will be spent for convention expense, special committees, the Executive Committee, the Baptist World Alliance, legal and auditing fees, building operations, and a small item (\$7,000) for Religion in American Life.



Pastors' Conference officers for the next year are (l to r) Bailey Smith, pastor of First Southern Baptist Church of Del City, Okla., president; Homer Lindsay, Jr., pastor of First Baptist Church, Jacksonville, Fla., vice president. Not pictured is secretary-treasurer John Hatch, pastor of Trinity Baptist Church, Ft. Worth, Tex.

## Cooper Sees Absorption

(Continued from page 1)

team experiences 43 persons making spiritual commitments in a week's work.

"It convinced him laymen could get something done," says Cooper. The group of laypersons met after the luncheon and decided to do something. They drafted the motion which they submitted to the SBC executive committee and was subsequently adopted by the messengers. Cooper, an executive committee member presented the motion to messengers.

"President Carter said we could call on him for anything he could do so we decided to call on him to communicate his feelings to the convention," says Cooper. The videotape message was decided to be the best method.

The group offered to write the text of Carter's message for him, but he declined. "I want to write my own message," Cooper quoted Carter as saying.

## Pastors Elect Smith

(Continued from page 1)

he believes the members of the BFMF are a "cross-section of Southern Baptists."

While he agrees with them theologically, he said the main difference is one of "attitude . . . their attitude is that they want to have a separate identity."



Smith, 38, is pastor of a church which runs in excess of 3,000 in Sunday School.

Others nominated for the office of pastors' conference president were Homer Lindsay, Jr., who was elected vice president; and John T. Trippett, Jr., pastor of Calvary Baptist Temple, Savannah, Ga.

## Our Folks

Talitha Edwards, member of First Baptist Church, Grenada, receives a word of congratulations and encouragement from Mrs. A. Harrison Gregory, president of the Woman's Missionary Union of the Southern Baptist Convention. Talitha is a member of the Acteens National Advisory Panel and served as a page during the annual convention of the Woman's Missionary Union.

## K.C. Tangents

A number of tangential meetings occurred during SBC week which are not reported elsewhere.

Thad Roberts, Jr., minister of music at South Main Baptist Church in Houston, Tex., was elected president-elect of the Southern Baptist Church Music Conference. He will follow James C. McKinney of Fort Worth, who just started a two-year term.

The newly-organized Association of Southern Baptist Campus Ministers chose Dick Bumpass of Annapolis, Md., as their first president. Bumpass directs student ministries at the U.S. Naval Academy.

Tom Roote, executive director of the Birmingham Baptist Association in Alabama, took over the reins of the Southern Baptist Conference of Directors of Associational Missions.

Mrs. Landrum Leavell II of New Orleans became the new president of the Conference of Southern Baptist Ministers' wives. Mrs. John Hamilton of Ames, Iowa, is president-elect.

The Southern Baptist Religious Education elected Charles M. Lowry, director of the Teaching and Training Division of the Louisiana Baptist Convention, president-elect; and Elmer F. Bailey, associate pastor, Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis, president.

The Conference of Southern Baptist Evangelists elected Bill C. Feltner, N.C., president.

Children in the Brotherhood Commission-sponsored Day Camp during the SBC, learned that Venezuela has 15 kinds of bananas and that 71 percent of Delaware is unchurched. They also learned how to sing "I Have Decided to Follow Jesus," in the Navajo language.

At a luncheon fellowship of the Baptist Faith and Message Fellowship, Bill Powell of Buchanan, Ga., editor of the organization's periodical, announced he will issue a book on August 15 called "The SBC Issue & Question." He said he would cite by name between 250 and 400 denominational personnel in the book which a printed announcement circulated to news personnel claimed "is a documentary of some of the liberalism in the Southern Baptist Convention."

And at 6:40 a.m., on the first morning of the convention, 56 participants in the fourth annual SBC Joggers Jubilee jogged.

Simplify Bible study, a noted Bible teacher told delegates to the 22nd annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Religious Education Association.

William Hull, pastor of FBC, Shreveport, La., said that the amateur Bible student is "tentative, hesitant, and almost excluded" from any serious Bible study.

"If Baptists ever get the idea that an understanding of New Testament Christianity is available only to a handful of specialists with years of technical training, then Bible teaching is just about as good as dead."

Besides hearing Hull, the 330 religious educators elected new officers of 1977-78, honored two long-time Sunday School Board directors who are retiring, and heard three other speakers including an SBC executive, a semi-

nary president, and a minister of counseling.

Albert McClellan, program planning director and associate executive secretary for the Southern Baptist Executive Committee, encouraged the group to follow the example set by President Jimmy Carter, a Southern Baptist.

"Many of our churches have become so preoccupied with the business of the church that they have lost sight of what is happening abroad," he continued. "We cannot survive as the missionary Baptist church in that way—there is just no future apart from the missions task."

Suggesting a theology for bold mission to which McClellan referred, W. Randall Lolley, president of South-

eastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N. C., suggested Baptists "allow the church to be continually broken and reshaped," disregarding the antiquated specifications so long imposed.

B. A. Clendinning, minister of counseling at Second Ponce de Leon Baptist Church, Atlanta, warned the educators that churches are going to lose many of their members unless they become more redemptive.

He told of a Baptist church member who left a church after the pastor delivered a "scathing" sermon against homosexuality. The man called Clendinning to find out if his church would accept someone as a member if the church knew he was a homosexual.

"What is the church for if it's not for people who have problems; for people

who are sinners, for people to worship, to grow and to learn even in the midst of their human frailties?" he asked.

"If we are to truly minister, we are obligated to care for man's needs whatever they are, wherever they are. If we don't zero in on those very real needs, an increasingly large number of those people are going to defect. They are going to go where their needs will be met or stay home where they are comfortable."

The newly-elected officers of the association are Elmer F. Bailey, associate pastor, Bellevue Baptist

Church, Memphis, president; Charles M. Lowry, director of the Teaching and Training Division of the Louisiana Baptist Convention, president-elect; Lawrence Klemmsner, minister of education and administration, Second Ponce de Leon Baptist Church, Atlanta, Ga., vice-president from the church group; William G. Caldwell, associate professor of Education Administration, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Ft. Worth, Tex., vice-president of the teaching group; Melva Cook, program consultant of the Family Ministry Department of the Sunday School Board, Nashville, secretary-treasurer; and Marjory Perkins, consultant for preschool and children of the Maryland state Baptist Convention, assistant secretary-treasurer.

## BSSB Creates New Position

KANSAS CITY — Trustees of the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville in a specifically called meeting here approved creation of a new management position, elected new personnel and updated the institution's bylaws.

J. Ralph McIntyre, pastor of Brainerd Baptist Church, Chattanooga, since 1959, was elected director of the board's church and staff support division.

B. Elaine Dickson, on special assignment to the executive office of the board during the past year, was elected to the newly created position of church services and materials coordinator.

A native Texas, McIntyre is a graduate of Vanderbilt University, Nashville, and attended Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth. In 1970, the doctor of divinity degree was conferred on him by Florida Bible College, Miami, Fla.

He has served as pastor of churches in Tennessee and Texas and has served on various board and agencies in Southern Baptist life. Currently, he is president of the Tennessee Baptist Convention and is a trustee of the Sunday School Board.

The church and staff support division includes the church administration, church music, church library, church recreation, and church architecture departments.

Miss Dickson, a native of Illinois, holds the B. S. degree from Southern Illinois University, the M. R. E. degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, and the Ed. D. degree from the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville. She has done additional graduate study at Illinois State University, Boston University, and the NTL Institute for Applied Behavioral Science.

In her new position, Miss Dickson will coordinate matters related to the Christian development, Bible teaching, and church and staff services divisions.

Trustees also approved changes in the institution's bylaws to update terminology and trustee committee assignments related to current organization.

## Golden Gate Honors Graves

KANSAS CITY — Three hundred alumni, trustees and friends of Golden Gate Seminary honored Harold K. Graves for 25 years of service as president of the Seminary during a Silver Jubilee Celebration at the Radisson Muehlebach.

The rewards conferred by the trustees and alumni were many.

Jesse C. Fletcher, trustee and pastor of First Baptist Church, Knoxville, Tenn., conferred upon Dr. Graves the title of president emeritus. E. Glen Paden, vice chairman of the trustees and pastor of First Southern Baptist Church, Sacramento, Calif., announced that the main building of Golden Gate Seminary had been named the "Harold K. Graves Administration Building."

The president's portrait, the work of San Francisco artist William J. Rader, was unveiled by Trustee Guy W. Rutland, Jr., of Atlanta, Ga., chairman of the retirement and recognitions committee. Graves was elected as a lifetime alumnus of the Seminary, and Trustees Chairman Charles A. Carter of Jackson, Miss., said President Graves would receive certain special retirement benefits, including a bonus and housing allowance.

Graves received from Thomas A. Jackson, trustee and pastor of McLean Baptist Church, McLean, Va., a book of letters of commendation, including one from President Jimmy Carter, a Southern Baptist.

Following Graves' retirement July 31, he and his wife, Frieda will continue to live in Marin County, Calif. He has been commissioned by the trustees to write a history of Golden Gate Seminary, and he plans to do some teaching at the Seminary's Phoenix Center in Phoenix, Ariz.

## Routh Scheduled To Retire From Top Administrative Post

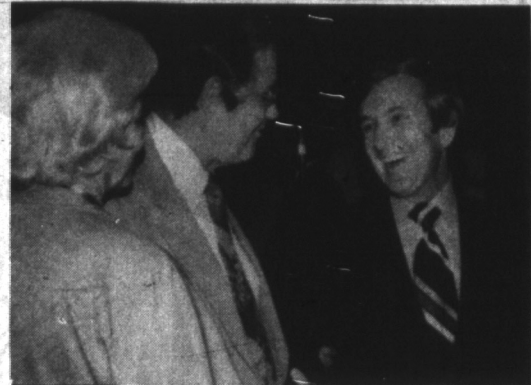
KANSAS CITY, Mo. — The Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention set in motion the machinery to select a successor to executive secretary-treasurer Porter W. Routh.

Routh is scheduled to retire from the chief administrative post of the 12.9 million member denomination August 1, 1979.

The action authorizes Executive Committee chairman W. Ches Smith, III, to name a committee of six by no later than next year.

The committee will suggest guidelines to be followed during the search for approval by the full Executive Committee by no later than its September 1978 meeting, with a successor to be named by no later than February 1979.

A layman, Routh has held the position as executive secretary-treasurer



Frank Pollard, right, pastor of First Baptist Church, Jackson, is greeted following his address to the Southern Baptist Convention by Allen Webb, center, pastor of Ingalls Avenue Church, Pascagoula, and Mrs. Webb. Pollard's message, "The World God Loves," was the concluding address for the Tuesday evening session.



Evelyn George, left, consultant in the Mississippi Church Training Department, was assistant secretary-treasurer for the SBC Religious Education Association. She is with Neta Stewart, dean of women at Southwestern Seminary, who was secretary-treasurer.



Clemon Downs, second from left, associate professor at William Carey College, is congratulated following his address to the Southern Baptist Music Conference. Donald Winters, dean of music at Carey, is at left; and others left to right are Paul Bobbitt, president of the SBC Music Conference, and Dan Hall, director of the Department of Church Music for the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

## Photos By Bill Sellers



Chuck Endsley, organist at Calvary Baptist Church, Jackson, was at the piano during the convention presentation for "Let the Church Reach Out through Preaching and Teaching."



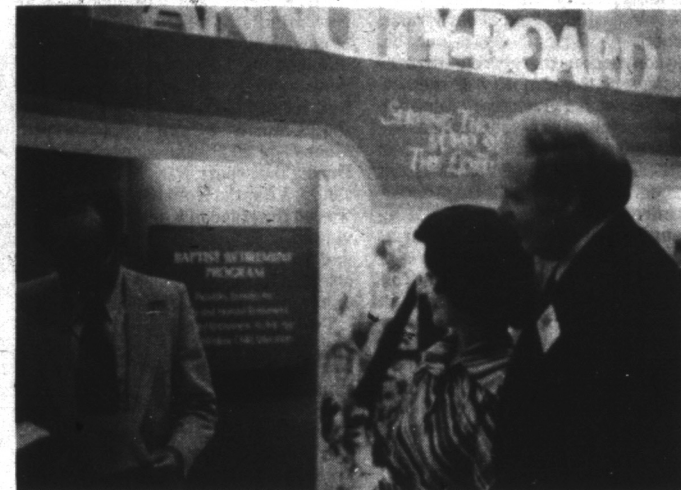
Bob Hamblin, left, pastor of Harrisburg Baptist Church of Tupelo and president of the Mississippi Baptist Convention, visits outside the convention center arena with Jack Gregory, pastor of West Heights Baptist Church, Pontotoc.



James Yates, left, pastor of First Baptist Church, Yazoo City, and Mrs. Yates chat with Frank Gunn, right, pastor of First Baptist Church, Biloxi. They were standing at the Stewardship Commission booth in the exhibit area.



John Lee Taylor, center, pastor of First Baptist Church, Grenada, participates in a panel presentation at the Southern Baptist Convention entitled "Let the Church Reach Out through Preaching and Teaching." The presentation was sponsored by the six seminaries and the Sunday School Board.



Mr. and Mrs. David Roddy, right, chat with W. R. Roberts, the Mississippi representative for the Annuity Board. Roddy, minister of education at First Baptist Church, Jackson, gave a testimony at the SBC Religious Education Association Conference on "The Church and Missions."



Two Vicksburg pastors visit on the sidewalk following a session of the SBC Pastors' Conference. At right is Paul Brooks, pastor of Woodlawn Baptist Church; and second from right is John McCall, pastor of First Baptist Church. Others from left are John Grass, pastor of Paraporn Baptist Church, Shackelford, Va., Mrs. Grass, and Mrs. McCall. Grass is Mrs. McCall's brother. Downtown Kansas City is in the background.

## Presidential Profile

Diversity marks the profile of the new SBC president, Jimmy Allen. The pastor of FBC, San Antonio, Tex., Allen, 49, has immersed himself in both denominational and community activities. A native of Hope, Ark., Allen was educated in Texas and has held pastorates and denominational positions only in Texas.

Prior to 1968 when he went to his present pastorate, Allen served eight years as executive secretary of the Christian Life Commission of the Baptist General Convention of Texas. He has been pastor of Cockrell Hill Baptist Church in Dallas, FBC in Wills Point, and FBC at Van Alstyne. He held student pastorates at Evant, Hico, and Dublin. From 1948-50, he was Royal Ambassador Secretary in Texas.

Married to the former Wanda Massey of Brownwood, Tex., Allen graduated from Howard Payne University in Brownwood, Tex., and earned the bachelor of divinity and the doctor of theology degrees from Southwestern Seminary at Fort Worth. The couple have three sons.

Allen was president of the BGCT from 1969-71 and was president of the San Antonio Community Welfare Council from 1973-74. He's a trustee of Howard Payne College and a weekly columnist for the San Antonio Express News. He's a member of the SBC Executive Committee and is immediate past president of Americans United for Separation of Church and State.

Allen is a member of the BGCT: executive board, administrative committee, Christian Life Commission, Christian Education Commission, and chairman of the Urban Strategy Council. He's chairman of the Planning committee for the San Antonio mayor's prayer breakfast for 1977 and from 1972-76 had a television news commentary called "Moral Side of the News."

A participant in the planning conference for the White House Conference of Civil Rights, Allen has a church that's busy whether he's there or not.

He says the church operates on a "celebrating family concept" with a very evangelistic outlook and is mission minded.



Allen accepts congratulations.

"Putting hands to your heartbeat," is what he says the church does in its daily life. Ministries of the church include: a street ministry, a soup kitchen which holds worship services at the request of patrons, a community house, free counseling service, a clinic, game wagon, and ministry to internationals, and a "Barnabas plan" family ministry.

First Baptist Church has black, brown, Oriental, and Caucasian members. It "sort of looks like a little United Nations," he says.

Theologically, Allen says he's "a theological conservative and a social application progressive." "I believe in the authority of the Word of God, in the Bible. I believe in putting the fundamental truths of God into healthy application in the power of the Holy Spirit to change human nature."

## Clarke Honors W. L. Compere



Compere

The ceremony will be honoring W. L. Compere with a reception on Sunday, June 26. This event is in recognition of Dr. and Mrs. Compere's more than twenty years of service to the Mississippi Baptist Junior College which is located in Newton. The reception will be held in the College Cafeteria between the hours of 2:30 p.m. and 5 p.m.

## CB Handles Have Religious Tendencies

By Dan Martin

KANSAS CITY — Baptist good buddies flooded Channel 19 as they conveyed to Kansas City and the Southern Baptist Convention.

Folks like the Tuna Fish Lady, Mongoose, Missions Man, Shepherd, Solid Rock and many a Preacher Man kept the yackety yack going as they filled the air as well as the highways.

"The truckers didn't even get to talk about the smokies (police), because we were so busy talking about the convention and the Lord," said Missions Man, who goes by the name of Hal Crane, when not using his handle.

"We had a real convoy going from St. Louis to Kansas City," said Crane who is director of missions for the Michigan Baptist Convention. "There were probably 15 people talking about the convention."

Missions Man started talking to The Mongoose, and they got up a lunch date. Crane stopped at a highway restaurant and was joined by Bob Gattney, a pastor from Macon, Ga., The Mongoose.

"We had a wonderful time fellowshiping," Crane said.

As he got back on the road, Crane heard a message from the Shepherd. He asked if it was the Shepherd from Gaylord, Mich., and got a big 10-4.

"It was John Besse, one of our mission pastors. We switched over to Channel 20, and I learned more about his work than I have in several months, from reading the reports."

"Four or five other guys also switched over and they learned a lot about our work in Michigan," Crane added.

The Missions Man and the Tuna Fish Lady (Marilyn Hall of Hawk Point, Mo.) both remember listening to a "preacher from Alabama who sure did talk a lot."

The Tuna Fish Lady said she

Atlantic City, N. J. (RNS) — In ceremony on the Boardwalk here attended by some 6,000 people, Gov. Brendan T. Byrne of New Jersey signed into law legislation permitting development of casino gambling in Atlantic City. New Jersey voters approved casino gambling for Atlantic City in a referendum last November.

Alabaman "sounded like a preacher... long and loud," but the Missions Man was more diplomatic, saying only that the Southerner "sure did have a loud unit."

Others Crane remembers in their convoy were the Sky Pilot and the Bootlegger, both of whom are Florida pastors.

Blue Pencil, motoring up from Memphis, eavesdropped on a conversation between Preacher Man and the Rambling Rebel.

"The Rebel is a truck driver hauling electronic equipment from New York to San Jose, Calif., and the Preacher Man is a pastor in North Carolina. They got to talking and found out they live about 20 miles from each other," Blue Pencil said.

He noted the two CBers got into a longer conversation and found out the trucker is a Southern Baptist layman. Before it was all over they decided to get together with their families for dinner.

Blue Pencil also had a conversation with another Preacher Man, this one from East Tennessee.

"He wanted to follow me on in, but decided he would stop and eat a bite. When he signed off, he told me, 'If I don't see you at the SBC, I'll see you in heaven.'"

"An unidentified voice cracked over the radio, 'Now, that's confidence if I ever heard it.'"

"Preacher Man came back and said, 'That's not confidence. It comes from knowing the Lord.'"

Another Preacher Man paid careful attention to handles of those in his range.

"There was the North Carolina Watchman, the Good News Man from Florida, the Cajon Preacher from Louisiana, and when a trucker asked me if I was a 'real sky pilot' I didn't know what he meant. He explained that it was a 'real preacher man.'"

# The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

## Editorials

### A 'Good' Convention

Following all Southern Baptist conventions, it is a practice of the editors amongst us to try to analyze the latest one. On occasion we try to determine if the convention just past was a good one or one not so good. Yet such an evaluation is difficult to determine.

At each convention Southern Baptists gather to vote their convictions concerning a great variety of issues. We may not all agree with the final conclusions, and years later some messengers may change their minds from the positions held at earlier conventions.

So conventions merely represent the positions of the majority of messengers present at a given session and voting. Hopefully, any such action will also represent a cross-section of Southern Baptist thought on the issues considered.

There was a time when voting strength varied from year to year as the predominant thought of the area of the meeting site was reflected. This was because of the greater ease of attending for those nearer the convention site. Travel all over the nation is easy now, and costs don't seem to be a great factor. Thus it seems that conventions have reached a steady course of a moderate nature that continues from year to year. This is good—very good indeed.

So it would seem that there would be no reason to judge any convention in any way but as a good one. The one just held was a good one.

Press people take advantage of preferred seating at the front of the meeting hall. This is necessary if they are to cover the proceedings. The SBC provisions for reporters have reached a sophisticated stage that is marvelous to contemplate and includes closed circuit television and individual earphones in a press room equipped with typewriters. A reporter can cover the convention and not leave the press room. He is furnished all the information he needs right there.

Thus a state paper editor is not likely to view the convention from the perspective of a messenger in a far corner of the meeting hall where the only contact is through the medium of the new image magnification system, which has been in use for about four years. For those who have not attended a Southern Baptist Convention recently, we can meet only in huge buildings capable of seating 14,000 to 16,000. In order to provide a better vision for the thousands sitting too far away to see, the Radio and Television Commission annually provides images on larger-than-life screens on each side of the platform.

This new system has opened doors to all sorts of new visual concepts by means of electronics. Multi-media

presentations involving the image magnification screens were used for a number of reports this year. What had been dull and ordinary was transformed into something vivid and exciting.

This was especially apparent in a combined report by the Radio and Television Commission and the Foreign and Home Mission boards. The report included a live, televised presentation of an interview with two missionaries in Hong Kong. The five-minute transmission was achieved by means of satellite communications. To go along with the convention theme of "Let the Church Reach Out" the report was titled "Let the Church Reach Out—by all Means—to all People—Everywhere." During the report, NBC newsmen Ray Cullin, a Baptist from Los Angeles who was on the stage in Kansas City, interviewed missionaries Jerry Juergens and Daniel Cheung, who were on a street in Hong Kong. They were shown on the image magnification screens.

Two satellites were used in relaying their images to the convention hall. It was a marvelous display of the possibilities of televised communications.

To achieve our goal of evangelizing the world during this century will require such methods, and they cost a great deal of money. During the convention the messengers adopted a Stewardship Commission recommendation that Baptists accept a goal of doubling Cooperative Program gifts to state conventions from \$150 million to \$300 million by 1982 and to increase it again to \$1.2 billion by the year 2,000. In addition the convention adopted a recommendation by its Executive Committee authored by Mississippian Owen Cooper, an Executive Committee member, that calls for a volunteer force of 5,000 persons who would be funded by churches or individuals beyond the goals suggested by the Stewardship Commission.

These proposals for implementing Bold Missions were probably the most significant actions of the convention.

Messengers refused to alter two concepts already in use. They were public disclosure of SBC executives' salaries and a two-year term for the president. Salary figures are available, according to the SBC Business and Financial Plan, by writing the agencies. The president is allowed a two-year term, and this was not altered.

The convention took a stand opposing "the evils inherent in homosexuality" while at the same time showing "compassion for every person in our society regardless of life style."

It refused to alter its stand on abortion, which calls for abortion only in cases of dire circumstances.

The convention adopted a five-point Christian Life Commission recommendation to "courageously confront television's moral challenge; confront its impact; use moral discernment regarding television; and to communicate their convictions about television to station and network officials as well as congressional representatives, the Federal Communications Commission, and advertisers... about current television programings."

The U. S. Ambassador to the United Nations, Andrew Young, whose invitation to speak to the convention had caused a great deal of comment, delivered a ringing message on reconciliation. This preacher of another denomination declared that the only hope of reconciliation between nations of the world lies in an application of Christian principles.

Finally, the convention elected a new president who should be one particularly qualified to lead in the early days of Bold Missions. He is Jimmy Allen, pastor of First Baptist Church of San Antonio, Texas. His church is at work ministering to everyone it can find in a downtown area of one of America's poorest cities. He describes himself as a conservative in biblical understanding and a progressive, active applier of the gospel in our kind of society. He said, "I am going to take, as the Southern Baptist mainstream always has, the Bible as authoritative and move aggressively to apply that to whatever issues we face in society and in our lives." He said he will continue to respond creatively to world hunger problems on all levels and to the total application of the gospel to life. He added that he believes this will result in a high profile for evangelism because when the gospel is authenticated with action, even the skeptics will respond.

With that sort of leadership we should be able to move confidently into the years of Bold Missions.

Frank Pollard, pastor of First Church, Jackson, delivered a message during the Southern Baptist Convention; and John Claypool, pastor of Northminster Church, Jackson, delivered the closing message for the Woman's Mission Union meeting. Bill Hardy, minister of education for First Church, Columbus, chairman of the trustees for the Brotherhood Commission, presented the report to the convention for that commission.

Joe Tuten, pastor of Calvary Church, Jackson, and Larry Otis, Tupelo layman, served on the committee on committees; and John Lee Taylor, pastor of First Church, Grenada, served on the credentials committee.

## Faces And Places

By Anne Washburn McWilliams

Fourth of July when I was growing up always meant Langley Reunion at Grandma Washburn's house. It meant tubs of lemonade and Grandma's lemon cheese cake and seeing kinfolks you had not seen all year. On such a day I first heard my red-haired cousins, Ralph and James Langley, talk about their plans to attend Baylor University. At last I have visited this illustrious school for the first time. I am not unimpressed.

When I was packing to come here I found in a corner of my suitcase the address of Mrs. W. C. Harrison, 1809 S. 10th St., Waco. For several years I have been doing research on Baptists of Brazil. Because of this, I had exchanged letters with Helen Bagby Harrison, author of "The Bagbys of Brazil."

Last Saturday I called her, and got an immediate invitation to to Columbus Avenue Church with her on Sunday, and to have lunch at her house. To listen to her teach a class of adult women in Sunday School was a joy I had never expected to have.

Columbus Avenue Church is expanding the sanctuary. We met for worship in what I took to be either a fellowship hall or adjoining assembly rooms. Anyhow, there was a wall down the middle. Pastor Marshall Edwards' pulpit was in a doorway, and the pastor faced the edge of the door facing. Thus he could turn and see the people on either side. He said, "We're doing what the Bible told us to do: 'Let not your left hand know what your right hand does.'"

Going to Helen Harrison's house was like taking a one-day trip to Brazil. In the dining room there hung pictures of her parents, William Buck and Anne Luther Bagby, who began Southern Baptist mission work in Brazil in 1881.

My hostess told me about her trip to Brazil last fall to celebrate the Golden Jubilee of the Baptist school in Porto Alegre—founded by her sister Alice and directed by herself for over 20 years—and to celebrate the Diamond Anniversary of the School founded by her parents in Sao Paulo in 1902. She was wearing a diamond ring given her at the celebration in Sao Paulo in recognition that she was the school's first pupil. She remembers her first day at the school's kindergarten when she was 18 months old because the teacher mentioned the way she was holding her hands and she sat on them to hide them!

She showed me her wedding picture, taken in Brazil when at age 39 she



married a missionary widower, W. C. Harrison. (He died several years ago.) I saw, too, the pictures of her son and daughter and grandchildren.

Other luncheon guests were Mrs. Dora Mae Herring (I visited First Church with her on Sunday night); Mrs. Isabell McDonald; Doris Goodrich Jones, puppeteer and Mrs. Harrison's cousin; Olindina Carvalho, Mrs. Harrison's friend and companion from Brazil; Eni Gruski, one of Mrs. Harrison's Brazilian "daughters"; and Eni's friend, Linda da Silva, from New York and Brazil.

Amid butterflies and dolls and cowboy hats and other mementoes from a certain South American country, we sat down to a delicious Brazilian meal of soupy black beans and yellow rice, cooked with beef and served with veg-

etables and chicken. We generously sprinkled the beans with farinika.

I noticed a Portuguese Bible verse in attractive script on the patio: *Eu e minha casa serviremos ao Senhor Jos. 24:15*. Mrs. Harrison—as full of energy and wisdom and love and laughter as anybody I ever saw—said, "Oh, I wanted to dedicate my house and my new patio to the Lord. I was away when the workers poured the concrete and when I got home it was almost dry. I asked the Lord to help me write this before it was too late. I grabbed an ice pick and wrote as fast as I could without measuring the letters. When I saw it looked so nice, I said, 'Lord, you did it—not I!'"

In English the verse means, "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."

## Book Reviews

**HOW TO MAKE YOUR CHURCH HUM** by Paul W. Powell (Broadman, 92 pp., \$2.50) The subtitle is "Spiritual and practical keys to effective leadership." There are thirteen short paragraphs of fresh, workable methods and plans for growth. This book clearly points the way.

**HEART TO HEART** by Robert G. Lee (Broadman, 151 pp., \$4.95) Robert Greene Lee, a pulpit giant, at the age of 90, pulls out all of the stops as he extols the King of kings and Lord of lords. These messages will inspire

you, cause you to rejoice, and make life meaningful. They include: The Perfect City, Roses Will Bloom Again, Seven Eyes Upon One Stone, The Saving Name of Jesus, The Destruction of Sin, and From Death to Life. These are love gifts from one of the world's magnificent preachers of the gospel.

**BROADMAN COMMENTS** July-Sept. 1977 (Broadman, 96 pp., \$1.50) This quarterly format is provided to expand the usefulness of comments to Sunday School teachers and members.

## East Salem Church

By Troy Smith, Pastor

East Salem Baptist Church  
Many of you saw the film strip on missions last summer which showed many projects our mission money had helped to support. One of the churches on that film strip was East Salem Baptist Church in Leakesville, Ms. I am the pastor of East Salem and briefly I would like to share our story with you. God's hand is visible all the way through it.

In 1974 East Salem had been closed for three years. Shortly before the church was reopened, there was a survey taken by some concerned people. This survey determined that there were not enough people in the community interested enough in attending church to warrant reopening the church. However, there was a small group of dedicated people here. "Borrowing" the pastor from a nearby church, they began having Sunday afternoon services. This pastor soon felt that it would be better for church to find a pastor of their own.

The first Sunday I came to East Salem there were 13 people present—my wife and I, our two children, my wife's mother and father, and seven people from the community. Our offering was \$19. They asked me if I would consider coming as pastor. In a couple of weeks they called me unanimously.

From the very first God blessed our little church. The first year we led in baptisms in our association, and for three straight years we have seen consistent growth. What has happened has been a modern-day miracle.

Within the first year we voted to build a new sanctuary that would seat 150. We had no money to start, but with money we received from the Mississippi Baptist Convention we poured the foundation. All the panelling was donated by the First Baptist Church of Lucedale. We went into this program on faith trusting God to provide, and He did. Within a few months we were in our new sanctuary. Our Sunday School was growing. By the time we finished

the sanctuary, we had classes meeting outside and on the church bus. We even had a class meeting in the living room of my house trailer. Less than a year after we had begun our sanctuary, we voted unanimously to build a new two-story educational building. Last October we moved into it. Again we received help from Mississippi Baptists.

We voted last October to buy new pews, and we have had some money donated toward them. (Again, First Baptist Church, Lucedale sent help.) However, it seems that we will have to use the old slat wood pews for a while longer. We have voted to build a new sanctuary. The one we built two years ago is full. We will wait to put our new pews in our new 600 seat sanctuary.

We will build this as God provides the money. When He gives us enough, we will pour the foundation. Through all of these building programs, we have never had a dissenting vote on anything God has given us to do. Christ has kept us in perfect harmony.

## The Annual Gathering

More than 16,000 Southern Baptists convened last week at their annual get-together. They heard speeches, discussed issues, wrestled with resolutions, were subject to elaborate multi-media presentations, and visited with each other.

Most of those attending were preachers and their wives. Many others were other church staff members and denominational employees. Very likely, fewer than 10,000 of the 35,000 churches were represented at the Southern Baptist Convention held last week in Kansas City.

A great deal of expense and extensive preparation went into the programming for this meeting. Possibly the total cost of the convention, including the expenses of those attending, would reach \$7 million.

Most of this, of course, is spent by the messengers rather than in the cost of programming; but the price tag for the latter is considerable.

More than likely, all of the preparation and the expense is put forth for no more than one-tenth of one per cent of the members of Southern Baptist Churches. Is it worth all of the trouble and expense to have a convention when no more Southern Baptists than 16,000 or so are able to attend? It should be worth it, for we must continue to have conventions. This is one of the factors that hold us together. It can be worth it if those who attend will not forget to carry the reports back to those who couldn't go.

A great deal of time was spent this year in promoting Bold Missions. This is a concept that was

adopted last year in Norfolk, and this year's convention gave a substantial amount of time in refining it and promoting it.

Yet Bold Missions will fall on its face if the messengers to the 1977 Southern Baptist Convention go home and forget about it.

Bold Missions is simply an acceleration of our efforts to fulfill our responsibilities as set forth in the Great Commission.

Baptists are long on projects and promotional efforts. Some of them live and some dwindle away for lack of interest. Bold Missions must be kept alive. Those who received the impetus applied at this convention must be the ones to carry the enthusiasm to others throughout the convention and keep the interest at a high pitch.

## Letters To The Editor

### Blessings In Montana

Dear Sir:

I read with interest and much appreciation your recent editorial in The Baptist Record "The Acts in Montana." Thank you for this excellent

word of encouragement.

God is continuing to bless in miraculous ways but the needs are still so great that we continue to need the undergirding of Southern Baptists. Unless something happens we look for a record year in starting new churches and also in baptisms. I expect other records to be broken as well. Praise the Lord!

Roy W. Owen  
Executive Director  
Northern Plains Baptist Convention

### Our Old People

Some are put in homes to be forgotten. Others are put there by choice. Some have no one to care for them, so the nursing home is their home.

But quite a few have families who just don't care to be bothered with old folks. They don't realize that some day they will be old themselves.

Then there are those that love their old folks and would not care put them in a home. They love them too much to part with them. And for some there is no other choice. And when our old folks are put in a nursing home, at first they feel rejected, lost from their home and family.

But with the help of our registered nurses, practical nurses, nurse's aides, orderlies and doctors, we can

make them feel secure, safe and most of all to feel that they are loved and wanted. We all can give them this by caring for them, helping them, understanding them and all of the workers of a nursing home can do this, too. When an old person comes to you and says this is my home now, we really want it to be their home for it is their home. So let us fill their home with love, understanding, wanting and a true desire to help.

Remember if we live we will get old.  
Growing older each day,  
Rita Hunt  
Roxie, Ms

### Bluff Springs Rebuilds

Dear Editor:

On April 5, 1975, Bluff Springs Church (Pike) burned to the foundation. The loss to this small rural church was \$100,000 with only \$22,000 worth of insurance coverage. The church now proudly announces Dedication Day for the new church auditorium with a seating capacity for 350 people. The education building has 11 Sunday School rooms, kitchen, assembly room, church office and a pastor's study. Dedication Day speaker will be Don Stewart, head of religion and philosophy at William Carey. Morning service is at 11 a.m. followed by lunch

into the present education building within six months after the fire. A private foundation from out of state donated \$3,900 that was to be used in making the education building more servicable. Community singings were held and love offerings were taken. All the donations, advice, counseling, encouragement, building materials, and labor donated was a late wide effort among Christians. Bluff Springs Church now stands as a token of joint efforts between a small congregation,

other churches, businesses, and a host of interested individuals. Our convention leadership acting through the disaster fund really does care about ALL churches. In closing may we say thank you to all who helped. Perhaps you could join us by singing as your first hymn, "To God Be the Glory, Great Things He Has Done". You can rest assured we will be singing it from now on.

Rev. Jimmy Bazemore  
Pastor, Bluff Springs

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# John Jeter Hurt Editorializes On 30 Applegate Tipping Years

By Jennifer Bryon

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — After 30 years of attending Southern Baptist Conventions and upsetting Baptist applegarts, one of Southern Baptists' leading journalists attended his last one as an editor.

"Things were different when I came on the scene," says John J. Hurt, 68, retiring editor of the Texas Baptist Standard in Dallas. "We've changed and, for the most part, it's for the better."

A few areas haven't changed, however. He says he gets tired of every speaker calling the convention great. There have been no new jokes and few new illustrations.

"When I came on the scene, a half dozen men largely charted the course for the Southern Baptist Convention and the Executive Committee," he continued. "If they agreed on something, it would go through."

One of the great moments Hurt has seen at SBC meeting was in 1954 when J. B. Weatherspoon, then chairman of the Christian Life Commission, brought a report to the convention to endorse the Supreme Court ruling on civil rights. The report stated that the New Testament demanded that much and more. After debate, the SBC passed the report.

"That may seem like a small thing, but you never move a democracy with great strides," Hurt pointed out. "You must keep the tension on over a period of years. We get there more slowly but more effectively."

The convention now has a much larger body, which is better educated, better informed, and is a body which has ideas, Hurt said.

The size of the SBC is one of its greatest problems, believes Hurt. Only seven or eight thousand people attended the convention when Hurt became editor of the Georgia Christian Index, Atlanta, in 1947. He feels such large groups as the ones now respond more to emotion than to logic.

"Our committees have gotten so large that they are a congregation instead of a deliberative body trying to make decisions," said Hurt.

The SBC has always been preacher-oriented and will be, he believes, as long as it opens on Tuesday and closes on Thursday.

"My editorial for convention week says it is a convention of preachers and denominational staff, not the people. I'd like to see the convention sessions extend over the weekend so more



laymen and women could attend."

One of Hurt's most memorable conventions was the time the president, R. G. Lee, had to leave the president's chair to make an appeal to the convention to keep from splitting over a motion that had been presented to the body.

"That's the only time I recall such a thing having to be done, but Lee put his reputation on the line and appealed to the convention for peace. The motion was defeated," recalled Hurt.

Hurt says the SBC has had some "duds" for presidents, but because of the convention's democracy, it has survived.

"However, the overall level of our presidents has been exceptionally high."

It's time that a democracy the size of the SBC recognize that most presidents if elected are more than "merely available."

"There is nothing wrong with a man wanting an office of influence if his motives are for Christian leadership," said Hurt. "I'm skeptical of these nominating speeches which insist God has inspired the nomination."

He feels the SBC is primarily a time for fellowship and inspiration.

"We fight our battles, forget them, and go home with a greater determination for missions."

Missions is what comes to Hurt's mind when he thinks of Southern Baptists and the word frequently appears in his conversations about them.

"It started with Missions Advance under Thero Rankin, former execu-

tive secretary of the Foreign Mission Board," said Hurt. "Now we have it through Bold Mission Thrust."

Hurt attributes his love for missions to a personal relationship with Rankin and to having traveled in many of the countries where missionaries are located. He says he has great respect for Southern Baptist missionaries.

"It's much deeper than that," says Jack Harwell, editor of the Christian Index who served as associate editor under Hurt. "He has a soft spot for missions. It's his concept of the gospel. He believes the call to be a Christian is a call to world missions. Hurt believes foreign missions holds Baptists together."

"Southern Baptists have never been reluctant to make decisions and get involved if they are informed," said Hurt. "We must get them mobilized for Bold Missions."

He has taken upon himself to keep Southern Baptists informed over the years. He has prodded agencies and boards and attacked issues to get the facts to the people.

Because of this, Hurt, the dean of Southern Baptist journalists, has been labeled crusty, stubborn and outspoken. He agrees.

"My friends say I've been a thorn in the side of everybody and I think they're correct," says Hurt as a smile pushes wrinkles across his face.

Pointing out that by now most administrators should know that criticism never hurt, he says he thinks editors should be outspoken.

"I've never betrayed that trust," grinned Hurt. "You never get anything unless you ask. Sometimes you have to scream."

Hurt has been outspoken about closed Executive Committee meetings and about reports which are adopted routinely.

"It's sad that the Cooperative Program budget of \$63.4 million goes through the Executive Committee with a minimum of discussion and with no discussion from the floor."

Although Hurt has definite convictions, he will change if he finds he is wrong.

"I have confidence in myself to produce a newspaper although I've never produced the perfect one yet," said Hurt. "And I've made a lot of small mistakes through the years. Then, there have been a few big ones. I wonder if I did all I could in the racial crisis in Georgia. Maybe I should have been more progressive."

"I was dead wrong in a crusade to keep John Kennedy from getting elected," confessed Hurt. "I was afraid he wouldn't be independent from the Catholic church. But he was more devoted to church-state separation than any president until now. It's too early to judge Carter on his point yet."

Recognizing that the SBC is not perfect, Hurt does believe it is man's best organization to win the world to Christ. "I love it and I'm loyal to it," stressed Hurt.

## Ruth Stapleton On ABC Radio

FORT WORTH (June 15) — The ABC "Directions" interview with Ruth Carter Stapleton, which was aired in January on the network, will be repeated on the show July 10. Check local station guides for time in your area.

Mrs. Stapleton, sister of President Jimmy Carter and author of "The Gift of Inner Healing," talked with host Bill Beutel about her religious experiences.

She heads Behold Inc., a non-profit healing ministry which she founded. She has practiced "inner healing" for about 15 years.

The program was produced by ABC News in cooperation with the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission, Fort Worth.

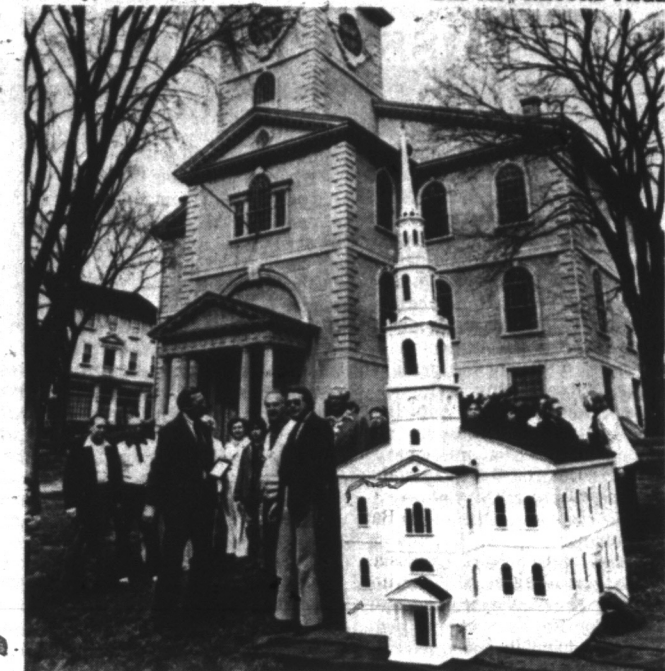
Mrs. Stapleton told how she became involved in the inner healing program after an automobile accident that plunged her into despair, which she linked with repressed anger against her parents.

Mrs. Stapleton is convinced that most mental ills are caused by painful repressed memories of the unconscious mind's "inner child." To reawaken and heal these crippling memories, she uses a technique she calls faith imagination.

"Directions" is produced by Sid Darion, ABC News' manager of Television Cultural Affairs. Consultants for the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission were Paul M. Stevens, Commission president, and Truett Myers, the Commission's senior vice president, television production services.

Thursday, June 23, 1977

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## Big Church, Little Church

A Bicentennial project of the First Baptist Church in Ridgefield, N.J., turned out to be an unexpected gift for the First Baptist Church in America, located in Providence, R.I.—a scale reproduction of the R.I. church's meeting house. The present meeting house was built in 1775. The replica, built by volunteers, has been moved to the newly-renovated Union Railroad Station in Providence for display. (BP) Photo by the Providence Journal-Bulletin

## Quick Dip Saves Life

By Bonita Sparrow

KANSAS CITY — Two Baptist pastors who saved the life of a 16-year-old Kansas City, Mo., youth in a motel swimming pool accident Monday got a "good news" report on his spiritual condition Tuesday.

Raymond Whetstone, pastor of First Baptist Church, Chetopke, Kans., and Duane White, pastor of Blood River Baptist Church, Albany, La., slipped out of meetings during the 120th session of the Southern Baptist Convention here Tuesday afternoon to visit young Bob Smith at Bethany Hospital here.

"We told him we felt God had spared his life for a purpose and we asked him if he knew the Lord Jesus Christ as his Savior," Whetstone said. "He said, 'I do now. I've been praying all night.'"

White, who had taken a Southerner's New Testament with him to the hospital, left it with Smith. "I had already bought a Bible for him but I didn't take it to the hospital with me," he said. "Bob promised to visit us in our motel after he got out of the hospital. I'll give it to him then."

The two pastors learned the young man had a sketchy, religious background. He said he had gone to

church "once or twice" with his sister. "We're looking for a Baptist pastor in that boy's area to minister to him," Whetstone said. "Bob promised us he'd go to a church Sunday and make his profession of faith public."

"There's no question of the authenticity of his experience," White added. "He had a real air of excitement. He was a free person and we're both praising God for the experience."

Whetstone had been fretting about being late to the convention Monday and had just pulled his car into the motel parking lot when he saw the manager running toward the pool with a long pole.

"I don't know how I knew that somebody had drowned, but I ran toward the pool just as fast as I could," he said. "Bob was lying on the bottom and had already turned blue when I pulled him out."

White had already checked into the motel and had stepped out on the balcony to see if he recognized any of the cars there when he saw Whetstone at the pool's edge.

"I got there just as Roy pulled him out. We both really feel like God had us in that spot in His time, for a definite purpose."

## Graham Holds Vegas Crusade

Billy Graham has agreed to hold an evangelistic crusade in Las Vegas, Nevada, February 1-5, 1978. The announcement was made at a meeting of church and lay leaders in Las Vegas tonight.

The movement to bring Graham here began with a small group of individuals about two years ago. One of those involved in the early efforts was M. E. McGlamery, Director of Missions, Lake Meade Association. Now there is broad support from area churches.

Ken Forshee, pastor of the First Christian Church of Las Vegas, is chairman of the crusade executive committee. Co-chairmen of the advisory committee are Nevada Governor, Mike O'Callaghan, and Las Vegas Mayor, William Briare.

The crusade meetings will be held in the East Exhibit Hall of the Las Vegas Convention Center which has been described as a football stadium under a roof and can accommodate up to 20,000 persons. The Convention Center is the home of the University of Nevada Las Vegas Rebels basketball team which has gained national recognition, and is the site of circuses, rodeos, rock concerts and conventions. It is one of the top three convention centers in the nation.

While Las Vegas has a reputation as a gambling and entertainment capital, the evangelistic interest and church activity leading to the scheduling of the Greater Las Vegas Billy Graham Crusade shows something else goes on there.

Graham receives approximately 8,000 invitations annually to conduct crusades and to speak at other occasions. He accepts only 4 or 5 major city-wide crusades each year. Graham's last crusade in this country was on the campus of Notre Dame University, South Bend, Indiana, where 45,000 persons crowded into the football stadium for the final Sunday afternoon meeting. His next crusade is in Cincinnati, Ohio, October 21-30.

New York (RNS) — Executives of two major corporations have told religious leaders that they have adopted policies against sponsoring television programs with excessive violence. Representatives of the Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility met with executives of Procter & Gamble and the Pillsbury Company and announced that they have decided to withdraw stockholder resolutions urging the companies to adopt such policies.

## Radio, TV Commission Beams Transmission From Hong Kong

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Bob Thornton, television producer at the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission in Fort Worth, is "beaming" — literally and figuratively.

He should be. During the Tuesday night meeting of the 120th Southern Baptist Convention in Roe Bartle Convention Center here, Thornton and a Radio and Television Commission crew successfully beamed a five-minute live transmission from Hong Kong to Kansas City.

"The feat climaxed almost four months of work, if you take into account all the other preparation that went into this convention," Thornton said.

The live telecast via satellites also climaxed a combined effort of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, Home Mission Board and Radio and Television Commission.

The effort demonstrates the potential of using live telecasts via a multi-satellite process to flash the message of Jesus Christ around the world.

"The process we used to telecast the brief segment from Hong Kong is rather complicated," said Thornton, "but we feel that with practice it can almost become routine."

The segment contained remarks and answers to questions by two Southern Baptists who serve in mission positions in Hong Kong.

Both Jerry Juergens and Daniel Cheung answered questions asked them by Ray Cullin, NBC news correspondent from Los Angeles who is also a Southern Baptist.

Juergens and Cheung also joined messengers in the convention center in

reciting the Lord's Prayer.

Juergens, who is a seminary professor and chairman-elect of the Hong Kong Mission, told messengers, "It's already morning in Asia."

Thornton explained the telecast showed a street scene in Hong Kong at about 8:15 a.m.

"It's as though we've broken through the final communications barrier," Juergens remarked.

Cheung, president of the Hong Kong Baptist Convention and pastor of the Kowloon Baptist Church, described the people of Hong Kong as members of a "stone age" in terms of their knowledge of Jesus Christ.

"But with satellite communications," he said, "we can reach from the heart of God to the heart of Man."

Juergens then spoke of a "world brotherhood" through the gospel of Christ. He hopes the joint recitation of the Lord's Prayer can represent God's wrapping the whole world in his arms.

Thornton described the process of beaming a live segment from Hong Kong via satellites as involved.

He said the Radio and Television Commission coordinated the telecast with the Rediffusion Limited Television network in Hong Kong.

Briefly, here's the process used Tuesday night:

The Rediffusion firm fed the action to the Hong Kong Cable and Telegraph

Company which used an "uplink" transmitter to relay the scene from ground level to the first satellite.

This satellite "downlinked" the scene to ground in San Francisco. From there the transmission reached another satellite over the U.S., which shuttled it to Kansas City via Chicago.

A highlight of the transmission involved a conversation between Cullin and Juergens and Cheung.

The telecast spiced a media presentation by the Radio and Television Commission, Foreign Mission Board and Home Mission Board. The presentation was called "Let the Church Reach Out — By All Means — To All People — Everywhere!"

CLINTON — Radio station WHJT (FM 93.5), owned and operated by Mississippi College, was named state wide winner for the most original program or series for 1977 in the AAA market at the Broadcasters' Association annual convention in Biloxi on June 4. The station submitted four programs in the competition including WHJT's Christmas Special; "The Flying Dutchman," a classical music special; "Children's Story Time," a children's special; and "Starlight Concert," a classical music special. It has not been announced which of the four programs won the competition.



A former Mississippian, Jack Farmer, second from left, of Birmingham, Ala., visits with Mississippians at the Mississippi College booth at the convention. Others left to right are Van Quick, vice president of student affairs at Mississippi College; Norman Gough, director of public relations at the college; and Bill Baker, pastor of First Baptist Church, Clinton. Farmer, now pastor of Ensley Baptist Church in Birmingham, was formerly pastor of Center Terrace Baptist Church in Canton.

## Church Music Group Elects New President

KANSAS CITY — Members of the Southern Baptist Church Music Conference elected a new president, made a constitutional change, and noted growth in its 20-year history during a two-day meeting here.

James C. McKinney of Fort Worth, Tex., dean of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary's school of music, was elected president for a two-year term. He succeeds Paul Bobbitt of Jacksonville, Fla., music secretary for the Florida Baptist Convention. Thad Roberts, Jr., 50th Main Baptist Church, Houston, Tex., was named president-elect. He will succeed McKinney in 1979.

The constitutional change will provide for the appointment of a permanent editor of the Music Conference's journal, Bobbitt said.

Clemon Downs, associate professor of church music and voice at William Carey College, Canton, Miss., recounted some of the organization's 20-year history.

It began, he said, as a suggestion at the Southern Baptist Convention in

Kansas City in 1956. It became a reality in 1957 when the group gathered at the Conrad Hilton in Chicago.

McKinney was elected president by a mail vote of the organization's 900 members.

"We vote by mail so the members who can't come to the convention will be able to vote, too," observed Bobbitt.

Serving with McKinney will be Allen R. Brown of the Baptist General Association of Virginia's Church Music Department, denominational vice president; Max Lyall of Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, Mill Valley, Calif., educational vice president; A. L. Butler, First Baptist Church, Ada, Okla., local church vice president, and Mary June Tabor, Oklahoma Baptist Convention's associate state music secretary, secretary-treasurer.

The conference conferred four life memberships on retired members. Honorees were Saxe Adams of Nashville, Imman Johnson of Prince George, Va.; Donald Winters of Hattiesburg, Miss.; and J. Campbell Wray of Fort Worth.

Sunday night's concert sessions included music by the Southern Baptist Singing Men, Ragan Courtney of Nashville, a choir of 1,000 voices from church choirs in the Greater Kansas City area, and a mini-concert by evangelistic singer Cynthia Clawson.

The Lord Jesus did not pray that the disciples would be taken out of the world but that they would be kept from sin while they were in it. It is all right for a ship to be launched in the sea, but it is terrible when the sea gets into the ship. — HENRIETTA C. MEARS

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## Bold Mission Thrust

(Continued from page 1)

these needs and to become personally involved in mission support.

Jose Borrás, president of the Spanish Baptist Union and dean of a Baptist seminary in Madrid, called especially for Baptists to pray for full religious liberty in Spain, and for the first free elections three days later, Wednesday, June 15, when Spain was scheduled to elect representatives to a new Senate and Congress under a new democratic form of government.

Two speakers during the drama, American Indian Jimmy Anderson, who directs mission efforts with the Seminole and Creek Indians in Oklahoma, and Allen Elston, missionary to the Indians on the Warm Springs Reservation in central Oregon, urged Baptists to respond to the needs of American Indians.

Two black Baptist pastors, Lambert Mills of Antigua, and Samuel Fajeli of Ogbomoso, Nigeria, expressed appreciation for Baptists who helped provide their education, and urged the people to pray for the needs of their people.

Following the rally, many of the Baptists attending the rally divided into 34 prayer groups scattered throughout the convention center complex to pray for 16 specific prayer needs printed in the program. Mrs. Frances Smira, WMU president in Mississippi, was in charge of one of the prayer groups.

The participants prayed for missions work in "danger zones" of the world, including Ethiopia, Uganda, and Rhodesia; for Christians in Vietnam; for missionaries efforts with 70 million ethnic people in the USA; for the need for 10,000 persons in volunteer to serve in short-term home mission projects, and a host of other mission needs.

In the closing message at the WMU convention, John R. Claypool, pastor of Northminster Baptist Church in Jackson, urged those attending the convention to match their words with deeds that give validity to what they say as Christians. "We must both speak out and reach out if the attention of the world is going to be attracted," Claypool said.

William G. Tanner, another speaker, SBC Home Mission Board executive director, urged Baptists to love other people the same way God loves every person who ever lived on earth.

"He loves the Arab nations as much as he loves the people of Missouri," Tanner said. "He loves the dictator in Uganda as much as he loves the born-again believer in the White House. God loves us," he added, "not because we are lovable objects, but because he is a

loving subject."

Tanner said that the love of God is even more amazing in the light of man's response.

"When you consider the things that God puts up with from man—the irritating sassiness of nations, the debunking of the Bible, the profit motive of a self-centered religion or the hypocrisy of so-called 'believers'—it makes me wonder why God has not flooded the earth a few more times," Tanner added.

Seven Baptist home and foreign missionaries told of specific needs and concerns for reaching national and ethnic groups at home and abroad, pleading with Baptists for intensified mission support. Included was the pastor of the First Baptist Church of Miami Beach, Robert Tremaine. He urged Baptists to eliminate another form of prejudice—anti-Semitism.

Tremaine said that although he and other Christians may have had no direct involvement in Hitler's holocaust against the Jews, "if you will look deep into your life, you and I have been just as guilty because we have failed to communicate that God really loves Jewish people and He wants to love them through you and me."

He said he had only begun to understand the bitterness Jewish people have toward Christians since he became pastor of the church in the highly Jewish populated city, saying the Jews have a history of 2,000 years of oppression, much of it at the hands of so-called Christians.

Although he said it is difficult to change 2,000 years of history, Christians can and should seek to bridge the barriers of the past by seeking to show Jewish people they love them by acts of compassion and concern.

In its only business during the two-day meeting, the Woman's Missionary Union re-elected Mrs. A. Harrison Gregory of Danville, Va., to a third term as president. Also re-elected to a third term as recording secretary was Mrs. William Ellis of Shelbyville, Ky.

In her annual report to the WMU, Miss Carolyn Weatherford, executive director of the organization based in Birmingham, Ala., issued a challenge for Baptist women to be bold in their mission involvement.

She challenged the women to (1) boldly reaffirm the unchanging mission purpose of WMU, (2) face the challenge of future shock, (3) boldly speak to the missions challenge of our day, and (4) be bold as individuals.

The two-day women's convention concluded on Monday night as the participants sang as a closing benediction the hymn, "Send Me, O Lord, Send Me."



New officers for the Woman's Missionary Union are (left to right) Carolyn Weatherford, Birmingham, executive director; Mrs. A. Harrison Gregory, Danville, Va., president; and Mrs. William Ellis, Shelbyville, Ky., recording secretary.

## Vins Said To Be In "Very Poor Health"

KESTON, KENT, England (BP) — A letter said to be from the family of imprisoned Soviet Baptist Georgi Vins was released here that described him as "in a very poor state of health."

The letter delivered by Soviet German immigrants to the Centre for the Study of Religion and Communism here, was thought to be dated May 3, 1977.

According to the letter, Vins, who is in a USSR prison, had written on March 14 that: "unnatural swelling over my whole face, the ride to the hospital with my fever, and on March 1 the strongest heart attacks, constant pain in my heart and the paralysis of my left hand all contributed to my hardly being able to sleep at night, for when I lay down my heart immediately began thumping."

"Only by staying sitting up could I get relief," Vins reportedly wrote. "Mentally, I had already taken my leave of you."

"But the Lord provided relief," he continued. Last Friday, the blood pressure had already fallen... I feel much better again. I believe in the power of your prayers and the prayers of God's people."

The letter from the family, which included the quotes reportedly from Vins, said they had last visited him Feb. 12-14, 1977.

On the last day, they said, Vins became seriously ill. "He got a high temperature, his blood pressure went up, and he began to get strong pains in the heart. In addition, his face swelled up."

Vins later wrote that he had been hospitalized and had three blood transfusions and 70 injections of penicillin "to keep him alive," the letter said.

The family's letter ended with a plea to pray for Vins and for his release from prison. "Please intercede for him with the authorities," the letter pleaded.

## Lay Music Director's Retreat Held

Lay songleaders are urged to attend the Lay Music Director's Retreat, July 15-17, at Lake Tiak O'Kata in Louisville. This is designed to be strictly a "cornbread and peas" event for songleaders, and will include such helps as: the ABC's of songleading, simple steps in beginning a music ministry, how to get materials and music with limited finances, demonstrations of ways to bring Sunday services alive, ways to help accompanist, etc. Spouses and accompanists are welcome to come. The only cost will be for two nights in a motel and five meals. In order to register, or for more information, contact the Church Music Department, P. O. Box 530, Jackson 39205 (Telephone: 354-3704).

## SBC Mandates

(Continued from page 1)

scale to any inquiring Baptist. That took a 50 minute debate.

The budget passage, which was not debated, included calling for a record \$63.4 million for the Cooperative Program—an increase of \$8.4 million over 1977's budget. It includes \$54 million for operating expenses, \$1,020,000 for capital construction, and \$8,320,000 in "bold advance" budget funds to be distributed if the basic and capital needs budgets are surpassed.

Messengers passed a Foreign Mission Board recommendation to allow agency staffers to give resource help to Baptist churches in Canada yet not encourage Canadian churches to affiliate with Southern Baptist work, while maintaining "fraternal and cordial relations with all Canadian Baptists."

Allen Schmidt, a Canadian pastor and president of the Northwest (Southern Baptist) Convention, said, "We did not seek" seating as messengers, adding the view that it "may come" as a natural result of the convention action.

The Internal Revenue Service's definition of Integrated auxiliaries caused messengers to order appropriate agencies to "take all necessary action" in articulating the SBC's position that all of its agencies, boards, committees, and institutions are "exclusively religious."

The Stewardship Commission's recommendations relative to Cooperative Program increases were adopted by messengers and included setting a goal of doubling CP gifts by 1982—a slight overlap of the mission volunteer motion which also called for doubling CP gifts. The recommendations also called for an annual reporting system for the CP and adoption of a single over-arching promotional theme to promote the Convention's world mission goals.

The Executive Committee in its report, had adopted by messengers a recommendation to approve the theme, "Equipping for Church Advance" for 1979-80 church promotion. Scripture reference is Acts 16:5.

A Missions Challenge report was adopted which included working toward a 5/50 split of Cooperative Program funds and to reaffirm the place of the local church in missions.

The Christian Life Commission recommended to messengers that they communicate with advertisers, network officials, local television station officials, and their senators, representatives, and chairmen of the FCC and FTC, about their concern over televi-

sion violence and sex portrayals. That motion was adopted.

Messengers also approved expansion of board representation from cooperating states, and reduction of local board members from five to three from any single church.

Major addresses during the convention were given by United Nations Ambassador Andrew Young, and Evangelist Billy Graham. James Sullivan delivered his presidential address and Bill Self preached the convention sermon.

Mississippians who were presented to messengers included Frank Polard, pastor of FBC, Jackson, who delivered a major address, and Chuck Endsley, William Carey graduate who played at the keyboards.

W. Douglas Hudgins, former president of the Foreign Mission Board, and executive secretary-treasurer emeritus of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, was invited by the FMB to represent them in a special presentation of appreciation to be made by the Japan Baptist Convention in Tokyo in July.

The messengers voted to request Jesse C. Fletcher, pastor of FBC, Knoxville, Tenn., to preach the annual

sermon next year in Atlanta, and to meet for the 1981 convention in Los Angeles, June 9-11. Atlanta's meeting will be June 13-15.



Anne W. McWilliams, Editorial Associate of The Baptist Record, won second place in the category of personal columns in weekly newspapers over 5,000 circulation in the National Federation of Press Women's communications contest. The award was announced during the awards banquet held June 4 at the national convention in Biloxi.

## The Missions Task

### Secularism To Stewardship

By John Alexander, Director, Stewardship Dept., MBCB

Moses did not rush to accept the position as leader of the Israeli nation in their expedition from Egypt to Canaan. He argued with God and offered a series of reasons why he should not become involved. God answered and helped him overcome every problem he presented. God wanted Moses as the leader.

One question God asked Moses was, "What is that in thy hand?" (Ex. 4:2) In our day also God needs convinced leaders, men who know God stands with them as they lead in often difficult tasks. Any man really called of God has just as much behind him as did Moses. Although rather reluctant at first, when Moses committed himself to the challenge, God had an instrument through which he could deliver a nation of slaves to a land flowing with milk and honey, a land having the glory of all lands.

Some of my friends in the ministry are often most reluctant when it comes to leadership in one of the most difficult tasks for some churches, the task of leading church members from the servitude of secularism to the promised land of Christian stewardship. They discover that some church members are like the old lady the scouts were trying to help across the street. She didn't want to cross the street!

No single area of a Christian's life can so dreadfully affect his true growth and development as a Christian as the right or wrong response in Christian stewardship.

God has placed in our hands as leaders of God's people "rods" that God does bless and use to help with our difficult work in developing Christian givers. Absolutely nothing so adversely or happily affects the spiritual temperature of our churches as their growth, or lack of growth, as committed Christian stewards. The church leader who thinks he can take a group of uncommitted church members and accomplish great things for God is simply deceiving himself.

Many of our churches are kept in the doldrums of mediocrity because no one has had the spiritual commitment and courage to lead them to victory.

I preached recently in an old historic church where I had spoken before in years past. When the choir stood to sing the call to worship, I knew something good had happened to that congregation. Then it was that I remembered how a few months before that congregation had experienced a thrilling victory in Christian stewardship. A prominent layman said to me at the end of the service, "If we never lay the first brick in building our new church, what has happened to this congregation is worth it all!" I understood what he was saying and how I wish that kind of revival could come to every Baptist church in Mississippi.

It will not come, however, until church leaders realize what it is that we hold in our hands that God can use and bless when we use it at his command. Are you willing to be a "modern" Moses for your church to lead the people of God to the land of Canaan?

Think about it!

## Survey To Register Youth's Opinions

By Chester E. Swor

Because I have been invited to address the youth gathering in the Mississippi Coliseum on August 12, I am so sincerely desirous of knowing what the young people themselves feel are their needs — needs which they would like help in meeting. There is always the danger that older adult counselors of us may not be aware of the suddenness with which the intenseness of youth problems may shift or the focus of their concern may change. Without continuing fresh new contacts, therefore, we just could be answering questions which they have not asked, or we could be failing to give maximum help with the problems which are most urgent at the time. For those reasons, I have never attempted a youth book or seminar without a fresh survey of the young people themselves.

In the light of my urgent desire to know what our young people themselves feel are their greatest problems or needs, I am asking youth directors and youth counselors in churches which do not have youth directors to do for me the great favor of making a survey of their junior high and senior high youth, asking them to list what they feel are the greatest problems or needs of young people today.

Perhaps in a special after-church fellowship, your young people can be asked to state what they feel are the chief problems facing young people today. Then, when the problems have been listed — perhaps on a chalk board, ask the young people to rank the problems from greatest downward to the lesser problems, beginning with Number 1 as the largest problem. Thereafter, if the director or counselor will send the list to me, indicating how many young people were in the youth group which discussed the matter, I shall be almost inexpressibly grateful. With these lists before me, and seeking the indispensable aid of the Holy Spirit, I shall strive to speak to our young people on August 12 as helpfully as possible.

Thank you for this great favor! You may send your list to me at 902 Whitworth Street, Jackson, Miss. 39202.

## First Black Student Fellowship Started

By Jim Lowry

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — The first-organized Christian fellowship for black students on a historically white campus has been started at the University of Tennessee campus here.

Significant differences between the worship experiences for blacks and whites make the new fellowship a vitally important tool for reaching black students, according to John Corbitt, part-time consultant for National Student Ministries at the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board and an ordained pastor of a National (black) Baptist church.

For blacks, Corbitt said, religion is more emotional, while still retaining the same basic intellectual requirements. Religion is a liberating force for black Americans, Corbitt added.

The new Black Student Fellowship of the Baptist Student Union will meet in the same building as the existing Baptist Student Union at the University of Tennessee, and will be led by the same campus minister, Bill Lee.

Black students, however, will plan their own programs and religious experiences with the black religious culture in mind.

In the past, Baptist Student Unions have searched to find an effective means to minister to black students on the white campuses, but blacks have not responded in large numbers.

Only two black students were actively involved in the Baptist Student Union program at the University of Tennessee before the Black Student Fellowship was organized.

Three weeks after the Black Fellowship was organized a total of 47 students attended one of the meetings. Contact has been made with over 170 black students.

Black churches in Knoxville are providing funds to help the Black Student Fellowship in its effort to

evangelize black students and help blacks grow spiritually while on the college campus.

Corbitt explained that the desire to establish black student fellowships on historically white campuses is an expression of pluralism and should not be considered a return to segregation.

He added that most people realize that America is composed of many different and unique sub-cultures and not one system of thought. The new fellowships hopefully will encourage blacks to plan and initiate programs of interest to allow blacks to maintain their heritage while ministering on campus.

## Hatfield To Speak At ASBCS Meeting

MOBILE, Ala. — A report on a nationally-funded study of Southern Baptist colleges and addresses by U. S. Sen. Mark O. Hatfield of Oregon and Milton P. Ferguson, president of Midwestern Seminary in Kansas City will highlight the annual meeting of the Association of Southern Baptist Colleges and Schools (ASBCS) here June 27-29.

The ASBCS will meet just before the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Education Commission, June 29-30, at Mobile College.

Earl J. McGrath, senior educational advisor of the Lilly Endowment and executive director of the Program of Liberal (Arts) Studies, currently headquartered at the University of Arizona, will make the report on the schools.

The report, expected to make significant impact on Baptist education, grew out of a year-long study by the Program of Liberal Studies. It was made possible by a \$100,000 grant by the Program of Liberal Studies, which is funded by Lilly.

## Rally Held For National Campers

There will be a National Campers on Mission Rally held at Ramada Camp Inn near Many, La. on July 13-17. On July 11-14 there will be a pre-rally fellowship sponsored by the Louisiana Campers on Mission. Campsites are with electricity, water, bathhouse, and some sewers. There will be a national potluck supper hobo style (bring a dish from your area and wear a hobo outfit). Conferences on family camping ministry and mission assignments will be held. A historical outdoor drama, Louisiana Cavalier, at Natchitoches will depict life in the oldest permanent settlement in the original Louisiana Purchase. Arrive on Thursday before the rally and go as a group that evening. Place on a notecard your name, address, no. of people in your party, expected arrival date and departure, whether you will need space for a tent or travel trailer or motor home, and how many adult and/or child tickets to reserve for the Thurs. night performance. Send your card to Special Mission Ministries, Home Mission Board, 1350 Spring St. N. W., Atlanta Ga 30309.

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2:30 to 5:00 p.m.

Clarke College, LaPorte

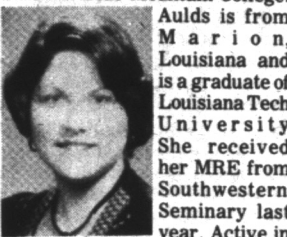
Newton, Mississippi



Charles Grigsby has been called as pastor of the Slayden Church. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Grigsby of Minden, Louisiana. He is married to the former Suzanne Allison of Memphis, Tenn. The Grigsbys have one daughter, Angela. At the present time Grigsby is enrolled in the Master of Divinity program at Mid-America Seminary.

Calvary Church, Columbus, honored their pastor Jerry W. Stevens, with a reception following the evening worship service, June 5. The reception was in honor of his Second Anniversary as pastor of Calvary. A special love offering and set of china was presented to Stevens and family. Under the leadership of Stevens this past year, a new Fellowship Building was completed and a new suite of offices were designed and constructed. (Pictured with Stevens is his wife, Bonnie, and daughters Sheri and Traci (right).

Nancy Aulds has been named director of the Baptist Student Union at Blue Mountain College.



Aulds is from Marion, Louisiana and is a graduate of Louisiana Tech University. She received her MRE from Southwestern Seminary last year. Active in BSU work while attending Louisiana Tech, she has a broad background in working with young people. She has worked with Paul Jones, director of the BSU at Texas Christian University, and has done extensive field work in both Louisiana and Texas.

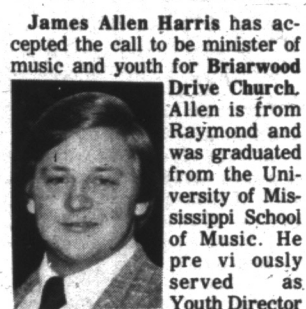
The executive board of Quitman County Association has called Paul Blanchard, pastor of Blue Lake Church, Lambert, as part time director of missions for the association. He will be coordinating the work of the Southern Baptist churches within the association. Truman D. Scarborough is moderator of Quitman Association.



On May 1, Charles Kenneth Guy began new duties as pastor of Ruth Church. He came to Lincoln County from Carmel Church (Lawrence). He and his wife, Mary have two daughters, Sharon and Susan.



Larry Darden was ordained as deacon of First Church, Helena, May 22. The ordination sermon was preached by Valton Douglas, pastor.

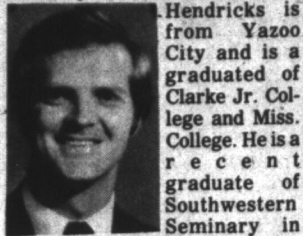


James Allen Harris has accepted the call to be minister of music and youth for Briarwood Drive Church. Allen is from Raymond and was graduated from the University of Mississippi School of Music. He previously served as Youth Director at Raymond Church and Northminister Church. He is married to the former Vickie Mayfield of Jackson. The pastor at Briarwood Drive is Louis Smith.

Paula Jean Williamson has accepted the call of First Church, Okolona, to serve as Education and Youth Director. Paulais a graduate of USM. She taught English in the Jackson public school system for four years. In May of this year she graduated from New Orleans Seminary with a Master's Degree in Religious Education.



First Church of Huntington, Texas, called Larry Hendricks to be their pastor, effective June 12.

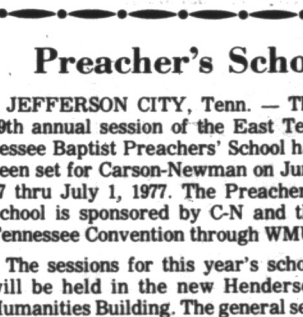


Hendricks is from Yazoo City and is a graduate of Clarke Jr. College and Miss. College. He is a recent graduate of Southwestern Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas, where he served as student body president during the past year. He has pastored churches in Montana, South Dakota, and Mississippi; and has served as youth director in Miss. and Maryland. In the summer of 1976 he was a chaplain intern in the Memorial Hospital System in Houston. From Jan. to May of this year he was interim pastor of First Church in Kopperl, Texas. Hendricks is married to the former Mary White of Arkansas. She is a graduate of John Brown University and has also attended one year at Southwestern Seminary.

J. Cordell Maddox, 45-year-old president of Anderson (S. C.) College, has been elected president of Carson - Newman College, Jefferson City, Tenn. Maddox joined the Baptist junior college in 1971 as executive vice president and assumed the presidency in 1972. He will succeed John A. Fincher at the Baptist senior college in Tennessee on Sept. 1. (BP)



After fourteen years of service at the First Church in Lake Charles Louisiana, Hugh Van Eaton has resigned as pastor to enter the field of fulltime evangelism. Eaton has served on the Executive Committees of the states in which he had pastorates, and on other Boards and Commissions at the national and state level.



Due to illness, R. Young Gerrard resigned his pastorate at Eden Church on May 29. Gerrard said that he hoped in time he would be able to fill in for pastors on vacation and possibly to serve as interim pastor for churches looking for a full time pastor.

Huey D. Perry who pastored Ecu Church (Pontotoc) has accepted the position of Associate Director of the Division of Chaplaincy with the Home Mission Board.

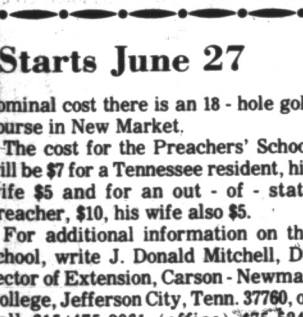
Perry has been with the Florida Department of Offender Rehabilitation since 1968. He served from 1968-73 as an institutional chaplain. Since 1973 he has been the Coordinator of Chaplaincy Services for the Department.

Perry's mother resides in Harrisville. His brother, Bobby, pastors First Church, Moss Point.



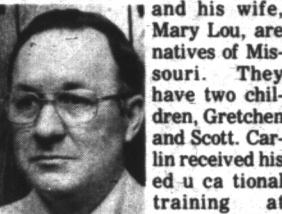
NASHVILLE, Tenn. — David K. Wilkinson, 23, information specialist for the Baptist Sunday School Board for the past year, has been elected staff writer for the Christian Life Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention and will assume duties in June. Wilkinson, a 1976 honors graduate with a major in journalism from Oklahoma Baptist University in Shawnee, is the former editor of the OBU Bison and assistant publication advisor for the university's journalism department. He served as press representative at Ridgecrest Conference Center during the 1976 summer season.

Pat McDaniel, executive director of the Kansas - Nebraska Convention of Southern Baptists, becomes executive vice president and chief of operation for the Annuity Board, SBC, on August 1. McDaniel will serve as principal planning officer for the Board and advisor to the president on internal operations.

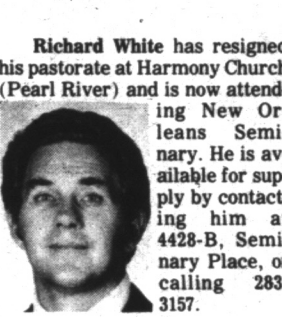


Majure L. Smith was licensed to the ministry of the gospel on May 22 by First Church, Helena. Majure was born in Neshoba, June 28, 1924; became a Christian on April 17, 1971. He has served as Sunday School teacher, trustee, ordained as deacon, March 11, 1973, elected as chairman of deacons, June 2, 1974, surrendered to the ministry, May 13, 1977. He is available for supply and can be contacted: Rt. 3, Box 488, Pascagoula, Ms. 39567; phone 475-9206. Valton Douglas is pastor.

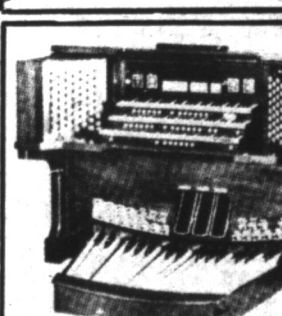
Gerald Carlin began his duties as Pastoral Assistant at Temple Church, Hattiesburg, June 15. He and his wife, Mary Lou, are natives of Missouri. They have two children, Gretchen and Scott. Carlin received his educational training at Kansas State at Pittsburg, and New Orleans Seminary. He has done additional study at Southwestern Seminary. Pastoral ministries have included Lakeshore Church (Miss.); Durant Chapel Church, Carterville, Missouri; and since 1973 he has served as pastor of First Church, Cuba, Missouri. From 1963 - 1973 Rev. and Mrs. Carlin served as missionaries in Ghana, West Africa. Kermit D. McGregor is pastor.



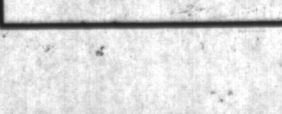
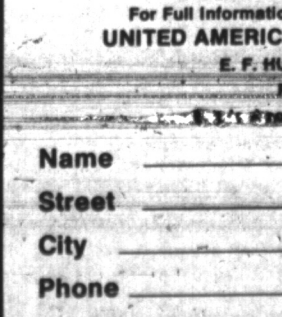
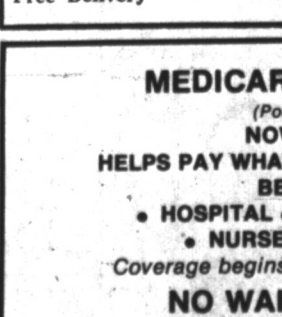
Richard White has resigned his pastorate at Harmony Church (Pearl River) and is now attending New Orleans Seminary. He is available for supply by contacting him at 4428-B, Seminary Place, or calling 283-3157.



Vatican City (RNS) — India's Hindus don't think very highly of Christianity as a spiritual force, an Indian Catholic bishop said here. Bishop Patrick D'Souza of Varanasi in a Vatican Radio interview said Hindus "continue to see Catholics as representatives of the rich and former colonial powers. They do not believe that Christians are spiritual people."



Minneapolis (RNS) — A Minneapolis Jesuit priest, reversing an earlier statement, now says he paid \$20 to a man who threw a pie at Archbishop John R. Roach to protest Catholic opposition to a homosexual rights bill in the Minnesota legislature. Dennis Miller of St. Paul, who earlier told local media that he had paid the \$20 to the pie thrower, said, "It's obvious now that I didn't pay the pie thrower. But Father Casey did not plan the incident. I did." He said he had said he paid the \$20 in order to protect the priest, Father George Casey, S. G. Archbishop Roach, head of the Archdiocese of St. Paul - Minneapolis, was hit with the pie shortly after receiving a National Brotherhood Award from the National Conference of Christians and Jews at a dinner May 12 in St. Paul.



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## Revival Dates

**Rock Bluff Church (Smith):** June 26-July 1; Jerry Measells, evangelist; Sunday services 10:45 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.; Mon.-Fri. services at 7:30 p.m.

**Pearl River Church (Copliah):** Sunday, June 26, at 11 a.m., lunch at noon; afternoon service at 1:30 p.m.; weekday services 7:30 p.m.; E. N. Sullivan, pastor, will be preaching; James W. Chandler, leading the singing.

**Unity Church, Pascagoula:** June 26-July 1; Tom Cox, pastor Plainview Church, Tulsa, OKLA, is evangelist (author of "Fruits of the Spirit" and "Ten Keys to a Happy Life"); Cox and family, special music; services 7 p.m. every night; nursery provided; N. R. Mapp, pastor.

**New Hope (Leake):** June 26-July 1; J. C. Renfroe, Director of Missions, Rankin County Assn., evangelist; Sunday services 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; weekday services 8 p.m.; devotional services Mon. Wed. Fri. at 10:30 a.m.; dinner on the ground Sunday noon; David Pickel, song leader; Jimmy Young, pastor.

**Eastview Church, Laurel:** June 26-July 1; Sunday morning service at 11 followed by dinner on the ground and an afternoon service; Mon.-Fri. services at 10 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; D. J. Benson, pastor of West Laurel, evangelist; Bill Lee, minister of youth at West Laurel, singer; Thomas Balch, pastor.

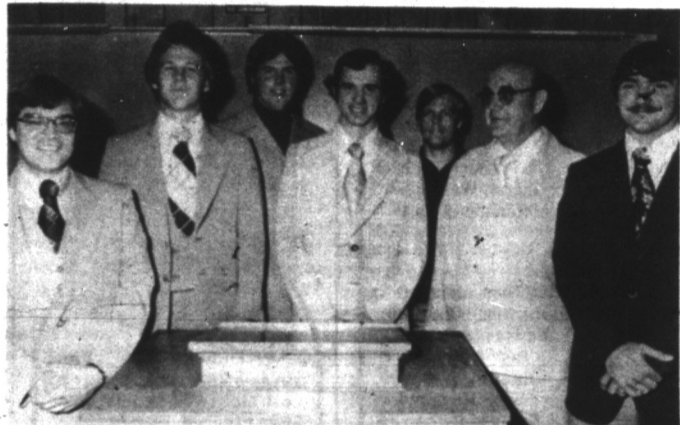
**McAdams Church (Attala):** June 26-July 1; Donald Howell, Decatur, ALA, evangelist; Jan Clark, Parkway Church, Kosciusko, leading the music; weekday services 10 a.m.; and 7 p.m.; Joe Anderson, pastor.

**Fannin Church, Pearl:** starts June 26; Marcus Alexander, pastor of First Church Flowood, evangelist; Tommy Smith, music; Sunday services 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.; weekdays, Mon.-Fri. at 7:30 p.m.

**Northcrest Church, Meridian:** June 26-July 1; Jerry Bishop, pastor of First Church, Lauderdale, evangelist; Tommy Harrison, First Church Lauderdale, singing; Lynn Houston, pianist; Kathryn McBride, organist; Chris C. Cornelius, pastor.

**Perkinston Church:** July 17-22 at 7:30 p.m.; Russell McIntire, vice-president in charge of development at NOBTS and former pastor of First Church, Clinton, is evangelist; Danny Shows, personnel director of Ellisville State School and lead singer in "The Professors" will direct music; Skip Barnett is pastor.

**Clifton Church, Forest:** June 26-July 1; services Mon.-Fri. are 10 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; regular Sunday services June 26; Herbert Eichelderger, pastor Hillsboro Church in Forest is evangelist; Ronnie McCall, minister of music at Angie Church in Louisiana is in charge of music; John L. Carlisle, pastor.



**Ministerial Students Elect Officers:** William Carey College's Ministerial Association has chosen officers for the 1977-78 term. Pictured with their sponsor, William Clawson, second from right, are: (L-R) Rocky Holston of Purvis, first vice-president; Keith Lowery of Pascagoula, activities chairman; Leon Dunn of McComb, second vice-president; Terry Long of Pascagoula, evangelism chairman; Randy Bowman of Lafayette, La., secretary-treasurer, and David Briscoe of Scobey, president.

## Sunday School Lesson: International For June 26

# Celebration Of Freedom

By William J. Fallis

Exodus 14-15



When they hear the word "celebrate," most people probably think of exuberant merrymaking, but that is only a small part of the word's definition. Most important, it means to honor, observe, or extol. Baptists talk about the observance of the Lord's Supper. While Catholics speak of celebrating the mass. Both are describing services of worship in which the work of Christ is called to mind with reverence and thanksgiving. Those for whom worship has become ritualized and lifeless need to express joy in their celebration of God's providence and love. But more significantly, they must avoid taking God for granted; they should regularly observe or celebrate his gifts and their own vows of loyalty and service.

### A Unique Event

(Ex. 14:21-25)

Being allowed — really, urged — to leave the place of slavery was a joyful experience, but more was yet to come. The children of Israel were still not out of Egypt on their second day of freedom. Soon after they had camped by the sea, they saw the Egyptian army in the distance. Pharaoh had decided that he could not afford to let Israel get away. The people complained bitterly to Moses: Better to be slaves than to die in the wilderness. Moses answered, "Don't be afraid. Just stand where you are and watch, and you will see" how "the Lord will rescue you" (TLB).

First, the pillar of cloud moved to darken the Egyptians and prevent their approaching the Israelites. The Moses stretched out his arm and his staff over the sea, and a strong wind divided the waters and dried a path for the Israelites. When the Egyptians learned what had happened, they must have thought that the Israelites could do it, they could, too. But halfway across, their chariot wheels became mired, and the soldiers panicked. Confident that the Lord of the Israelites was fighting against them, the army turned to escape. On the eastern shore, however, Moses obeyed the Lord's command, and the walls of water came together again.

### A Confirmation Of Faith

(Ex. 14:30-31)

These two verses appeared to be only a brief summary of God's great deliverance at the sea, but there's more. In verse 30 the writer declared, "The Lord saved Israel," which is a theological interpretation of what happened. In verse 31 he pointed to three conclusions the people had reached. First, they were awed by the power and determination of the Lord; it was a fear mixed with reverence. Second, they "believed the Lord" or trusted him enough to depend upon him. Third, they also trusted his servant Moses; he was honest and obviously an instrument of the Lord.

### A Time To Praise God

(Ex. 15:1-3, 20-21)

Delivered at last from their oppressors, the children of Israel joined in Moses' song of praise, verses 1b-18. It

praises God for his mighty conquests, but it also affirms the faith of the people that their salvation is in the Lord. The phrase "my father's God" may refer to the identification which the Lord gave Moses if the enslaved people should ask what God had sent him to deliver them. Certainly, verse 3 looks back to that occasion (3:14-15).

Israelite women also entered into the celebration of freedom. Led by Miriam, sister of both Aaron and Moses, they danced and sang for joy. The brief song is like the beginning of Moses' song and could mean that the women repeated it as a sort of refrain. But some scholars feel that Miriam's song is older. But the point is that both men and women joined in observing or celebrating God's victory over the Egyptians which assured the freedom of the Israelites. It was a time of exuberant worship.

## Sunday School Lesson: Life And Work For June 26

# The Christian Hope In Life

By Bill Duncan, First, Long Beach

II Timothy 4:1-22

There are those who belittle the songs which look forward to the next life. They would like to take out of our songbooks such songs as: When the Roll Is Called Up Yonder, On Jordan's Stormy Banks I Stand, When They Ring Those Golden Bells, and others. There are those who say such songs are merely escapist — that these songs merely look forward to deliverance from the world and its troubles instead of facing responsibility and the problems of this world. But such is not the case. The hope of life here, and the inspiration for man to live nobly and sacrificially in this life. If life on earth was all there is, many would question if it is worth the struggle. The assurance of life eternal gives strength and meaning and purpose to the suffering and struggles of this life. Christian hope causes us to want to do our best in the here and now.



Paul felt that the veil between time and eternity for him was very thin and that any moment his Lord might step through that veil to call all men to judgment. Men of God must fulfill their ministry under the searching eyes of God. The minister has one responsibility above others and that is to preach the Word. The Word is the gospel of God's saving grace in Christ. The task of preaching is so urgent that one must preach whether the circumstances are favorable or not. Timothy was to "reprove" those who were in error until they were convinced that they were wrong. Faithful preaching may not be popular preaching, and one should be prepared to suffer. Paul was evidently quite conscious that the end was approaching. How did he view his end? First, death is like an offering. "I am already being offered." His life had been the sacrifice, the offering of his blood in martyrdom was the drink-offering, setting the final seal. He was not only ready to suffer but proud to die. Second, death is like a departure. This is a farmer's word and would signify the "unyielding" of an ox when the long day is ended. Paul had ploughed a toilsome furrow all through his life's work and now came rest.

It would appear to be no exaggeration to say that for the believer the very best thing that can happen to him is to die. Sadness for loved ones left behind to miss us, but for ourselves only gladness. Paul expressed his hope in that he was on the winning side. "I have fought a good fight." "I have finished the 'course' or the 'race'." "I have kept the faith." He had fought like a wrestler, he had endured like a distance runner and had carefully kept his pledge to follow the rules. As a result, he was ready to be crowned as a winner. The crown which was the due reward of his righteousness awaited him. The effectual grace of God had wrought true righteousness in the pattern of Paul's life and now he was to receive the crown as the reward of his righteousness. The giver of the prize is the Lord, the righteous Judge. Paul had a right to look forward to. He knew that the giver was generous and fair. It makes a difference who gives the reward. Paul closes by stating that not only will he get a crown but all those who love His appearing. Are our hearts longing for Christ's return or dreading it? Our hope is His coming again. When He shall come, Christians shall see Him and rejoice evermore.

## Lowndes Churches Perform Musical

Young musicians, choirs, and instrumentalists from six Lowndes Association churches participated in a joint performance of "A Rhyme, A Riddle, A Song," a musical by Grace Hawthorne and Beryl Red. The production was fully costumed and dramatized at the Baptist Student Union on the M. U. W. Campus in Columbus, May 21. Fifteen youth and adults made up an instrumental ensemble which accompanied the 50 voice Children's Choir. Singers were from four churches: Antioch Church, Jim Dalrymple, Director; Calvary Church, Linda Fancher, Director; Mt. Zion Church, Harrell Wilcox, Director; and Fairview Church. B. T. Fancher is Associational Music Director. J. C. Mitchell is the Director of Missions. Linda Fancher conducted the performance.

Dusty is the tiny little poodle which lives at our house. No poodle traditions are sacred to her. She defies them all. Depending on circumstances, she seems to feel she's any kind of dog from a feist to a German shepherd. Never having shown any of the arrogant and prideful ego I'd been led to believe is characteristic of poodles, Dusty has no desire to stay pretty and clean. Being a house dog is not for her. She'd much rather be outside getting her fur wet from dew and rain, matted up from rolling in the grass, and filthy from plopping down in the one oil spot on the otherwise clean driveway. No number of ribbons in her hair influences her to change her slovenly ways. The South might have won the Civil War if we'd had Dusty. She believes firmly in her territory and spares no effort to defend it, considering any living thing a threat to her domain. The hilarious thing is that those living things take her seriously. Neighborhood dogs that could swallow Dusty without chewing her up run like scared chickens when we open the door to let her out to save her buried bone from their pilfering noses. Every time I stand at the door and glory in her spunk, I take heart that I

don't have to be so big myself to shoo away the forces of evil that sniff around my house. I just have to show them the bounds of my territory. Every once in a while Dusty sees a new dog and she calls us to stand at the door before she takes out after him. She's not sure but what she'll need some help. I'm like that, too, sometimes, when a new crisis shows up, or a temptation I'm not sure I can handle pulls at me, or an unexpected problem complicates my life. Then I wait until I'm aware of God's presence at the door — so that I know He'll go with me down the driveway or across the yard.

## Missionary News

**Dr. and Mrs. Paul H. Miller,** missionaries to Nigeria, have completed furlough and returned to the field (address: Baptist Seminary, Box 30, Ogbomoso, Nigeria). He was born in Charlotte, N. C., and lived in Biloxi, Miss., Greenville, S. C., and Decatur, Ga., while growing up. The former Eveline Farmer, she was born in Toronto, Canada, and lived in Baltimore, Md., and Clarksburg, W. Va., while growing up. Before they were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1964, he was associate pastor and minister of music and education for Immanuel Baptist Church, Louisville, Ky.

**Elizabeth Ray,** daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Charles A. Ray, missionary associates to Japan, married Darryl Nelson Myers May 21 in Brandon, Miss. Currently in the States on furlough, her parents may be addressed at 117 Oak Drive, Brandon, Miss. 39042. A Texan, Ray was born in Fort Worth and lived in Dallas and Breckenridge. The former Mary Elizabeth Gilbert of Mississippi, she was born in Perry County and lived in several communities, finishing high school in Tyler-town. Before they were employed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1971, he was pastor of a Baptist church in Greenwood, Miss.

**Mr. and Mrs. Donald V. Phlegar,** missionaries to Thailand, may be addressed at P. O. Box 832, Bangkok, Thailand. A Virginian, he was born in Roanoke and grew up in Portsmouth. She is the former Barbara Ann Carley of Yazoo City, Miss. Before they were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1967, they served as missionaries under the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board in California for 10 years.

**Dr. and Mrs. Steven P. Hicks,** Baptist representatives to Mexico, have completed furlough and returned to the field (address: Apartado Postal 267, Ciudad Satelite, Edo. de Mexico). He is a native of Madisonville, La. She is the former Minnie Greer of Poplarville, Miss. Before they were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1973, he was pastor of Crosby (Miss.) Baptist Church.

**Mr. and Mrs. William L. Smith,** missionaries to Brazil, have completed furlough and returned to the field (address: Caixa 338, 86100 Londrina, Parana, Brazil). He is a native of Amite County, Mississippi. She is the former Carolyn Brand of Orlando, Fla. Before they were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1963, he was pastor of Plymouth (Fla.) Baptist Church.

**Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Smothers,** missionaries to Paraguay, have completed furlough and returned to the field (address: Casilla 1171, Asuncion, Paraguay). He is a native of Memphis, Tenn., and she is the former Eugene Wells of Arcadia, Fla. Before they were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1972, he was pastor of Concord Baptist Church, Pelahatchie, Miss.

**Mr. and Mrs. J. Larry Cox,** missionaries to the Ivory Coast, have completed language school and arrived on the field (address: B. P. 20612, Abidjan, Ivory Coast). He was born in Lexington, Miss., and lived there and in Black Hawk and Greenwood, Miss., while growing up. She is the former Cheryl Keathley of Memphis, Tenn. Before they were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1975, he was minister of education at First Baptist Church, Vicksburg, Miss.

**Mr. and Mrs. Ernest B. Beevers,** missionaries to Indonesia, have completed furlough and returned to the field (address: Tromolpos 77/JKT, Pusat Jakarta, Indonesia). A native of Mississippi, he was born in Jackson and also lived in Joliet. The former Barbara Tettlow of Pennsylvania, she was born in Philadelphia and grew up in Parkland. Before they were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1967, they were living in Cincinnati, Ohio, and he was a student worker under the Ohio State Baptist Convention.

## Devotional

# The Cross As Reconciliation

By Dr. Eugene H. Dobbs, First, Philadelphia

II Cor. 5:18-19

That Jesus Christ, God's Son, could die on a cross for my sin is a mystery. That He would die on a cross for my sin is an even bigger mystery. However, that Jesus Christ, God's Son, could, would, and did die on a Roman cross for my sin is the most glorious fact of history. And in that dying he accomplished reconciliation between man and God.

**RECONCILIATION NEEDED.** The Word of God indicates many results of sin in the life of a person. Sin separates one from God (Isa. 59:2). Sin makes one an enemy of God (Rom. 5:10). Paul, in Colossians 1:21, points out one of the results of sin as alienation from God. All of these concepts underscore the need for man to be reconciled to God. Man, the creature of sin, left to his own devices could never accomplish this the greatest of all needs of his life.

**RECONCILIATION PROVIDED.** The message of the Word of God is that man does not have to supply the provision for his reconciliation to God. This was accomplished by God in the death of Jesus Christ (II Cor. 5:18-19). The precious shed blood of Jesus Christ, the lamb of God without spot or blemish, opened the way to God for all men. The veil of the temple, which served to separate men from the presence of the thrice holy God, was dramatically and supernaturally torn asunder at the death of Christ. Thus in a highly visible symbol, God declared the way open for men to be reconciled to Him through Jesus Christ.

**THE MINISTRY OF RECONCILIATION GIVEN.** In the experience of reconciliation, not only are our sins forgiven and we become children of God through regeneration, but there is given to us the message of reconciliation and the ministry of reconciliation. These are to be shared through the spoken word and the life directed by God.

May God enable us to effectively proclaim the message that in the cross of Jesus Christ God has provided a way of reconciliation between man and God and between man and his fellowman.

## Off The Record

A tall, thin fellow checked into a hotel in Dijon, France, where several fires had occurred, and registered for a room. He was given one on the top floor. The desk clerk noticed that among his belongings was a coil of rope and asked what it was for. "That's a fire escape," the guest explained. "I carry one with me so I can let myself down to the street without troubling anyone." The desk clerk studied it for a moment. "That's a very good device," he said. "However, guests with their own fire escape have to pay in advance."

The man walked into a public place with both ears bandaged. Someone had to ask why.

He explained, "I am watching the bowl game on TV and my wife is ironing nearby. She leaves for a moment, placing the iron on the board, and the phone rings. I grab the hot iron and put it to my ear, thinking it is the telephone."

"But what happened to the other ear?"

"I hadn't any more than hung up when the man calls back."